No. 221240

JOHN BULL

Vol. X. No. 243. SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 1911. ONE PENNY.

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

For meaning of this No. see Page iii. of cover.

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

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THE 'Daily Chronicle'

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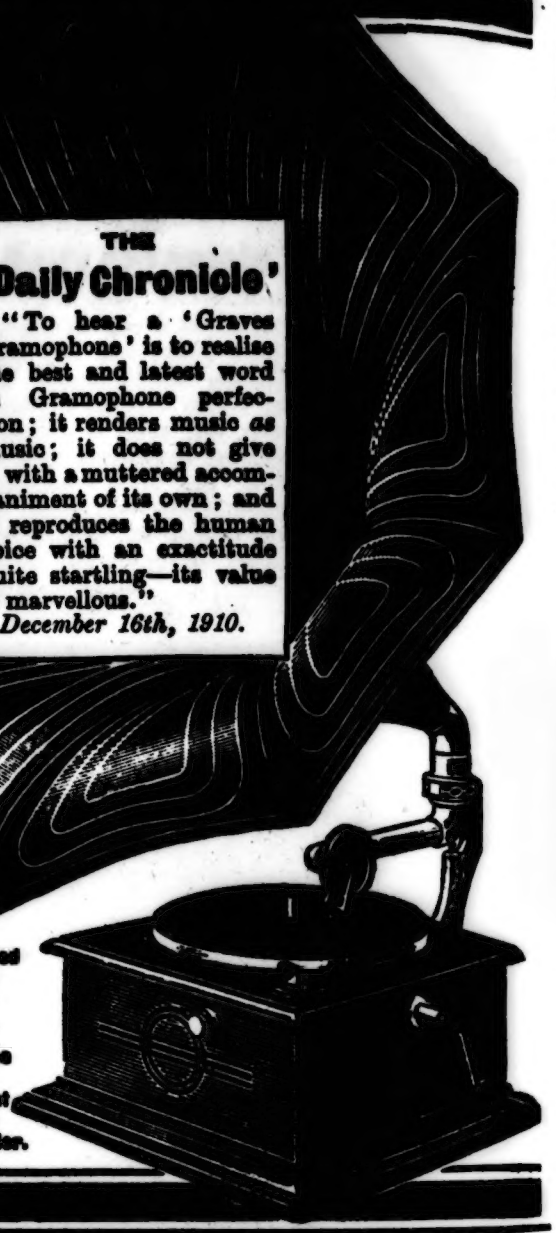

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In plain package.

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JOHN BULL.

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Vol. X. No. 243. Saturday, January 28th, 1911. One Penny.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Letters must be addressed to the Editor at 93-94, Long Acre, London, W.C., or the Publisher, at 67, Long Acre, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Business matters

All editorial inquiries MUST BE MADE BY LETTER.

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The John Bull League.

MANCHESTER AND SALFORD BRANCH.

A GRAND WHIST DRIVE
WILL BE HELD AT
MESSRS. LYONS' CAFE, 74, MARKET STREET, MANCHESTER,
SATURDAY, JANUARY 28th,
AT 7 p.m.

(Members are requested to assemble not later than 6.45.)

Tickets (price 1s. 6d., including refreshments) can be obtained from the Hon. Local Secretary, MR. F. WARDLE, 5, Woodland Road, Gorton.

LIVERPOOL AND DISTRICT BRANCH.

EX-LIEUT. ALLAN SUTOR
WILL DELIVER AN ADDRESS IN
THE CONCERT ROOM, ST. GEORGE'S HALL, LIVERPOOL,
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3rd.

Doors open at 7.30 p.m. Commence at 8 p.m. ADMISSION FREE.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT BRANCH.

A GRAND SMOKING CONCERT
WILL BE HELD AT
THE VICTORIA HOTEL, GREAT GEORGE STREET, LEEDS,
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4th,
Chairman:—Mr. W. B. RUSSELL.

To commence at 8 o'clock prompt. ADMISSION FREE.

Tickets admitting to reserved seats can be had from the Local Secretary MR. D.A. MACDONALD, 24, Savile Place, Chapeltown Road, Leeds, or at the Hotel.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

ANOTHER MOVE.

Once more we have removed "to larger and more convenient premises"—our address, in future, being 93 and 94, Long Acre—where, with our "good lady" *Mrs. Bull*, we are now installed in the largest, handsomest and best arranged editorial offices in the whole journalistic world. Our publishing department is also transferred to a portion of the same block of buildings—the old Queen's Theatre—this historic structure being included in the extensive range of new premises which Messrs. Odhams Limited have recently added to their already colossal establishment. By the way, their plant now comprises two of the most wonderful machines in the printing trade—specially designed for the requirements of JOHN and MARY BULL.

CHESTERTON COMING OVER.

What is this? Surely Mr. Chesterton is not coming round to our Business Government idea? A reader sends us the following extract from "What's Wrong with the World":—

> England is the country of the Party system, and it has always been chiefly run by public school men. Is there anyone out of Hanwell who will maintain that the Party system, whatever its conveniences or inconveniences, could have been created by people particularly fond of truth?

Mr. Chesterton is evidently a greater man than we have hitherto imagined.

ANOTHER CONVERT.

Three cheers for the Mayor of Harrogate, Captain A. B. Boyd-Carpenter! "I cordially endorse the wishes of JOHN BULL," said he, the other day; "he ventured to think that people would get better information about the trade of the country if they had more business men at the head of affairs." It is coming.

AND ANOTHER.

"It is time," said the Rev. T. Hamilton, at a Sheffield dinner the other night, "you took a higher pedestal than Party politics—for God's sake give up Party politics." And for the country's sake, too.

AND ANOTHER.

We have sometimes thought that Professor Lodge has a bee in his brain. We first came to the conclusion after attending one of his lectures, which he illustrated by blackboard sketches of various ghosts he had seen. For, like Sir William Crookes, Sir Oliver Lodge, despite his scientific training, is an Occultist—that is to say, he "sees things." But now we have been suddenly converted to the idea that the learned professor's head is really all right. Just listen to this: "Our Party system, as has been evident for nearly a generation, is undergoing a great change; it appears, indeed, to be on the verge of breaking down." After this, let no man say a word against the level-headedness of Sir Oliver Lodge.

AND ANOTHER.

From the Professor to the Bishop—his Lordship of Bath and Wells. "The nation is wearied with the Party politics which minister solely for the development of Party spirit and bring no amelioration to the suffering and careworn crowds." We raise our hat to the Bishop.

ADVERTISING US.

In the course of a recent sermon at St. Michael's, Southampton, the Curate, the Rev. J. Elwes, by way of illustrating the lack of love and charity in the world, instanced the existence "of such a disgusting paper as JOHN BULL, which pandered to the tastes of scandal lovers." There was a rare rush for the paper in the morning.

A TIMELY PROTEST.

We extract the following sensible appeal from the letter of a correspondent to the *Church Times*:—"May I enter a protest against the insertion of the word 'communicant' in advertisements for domestic servants? I have two cases in view. Some months ago, I got rid of a man whose full knavery I only discovered afterwards; but he was a communicant, and got another place. Now I am trying to find a place for a thoroughly good, conscientious servant; but for reasons which seem good to him, he has not been confirmed, and this has told against him." Is the time coming when a man's best recommendation for honesty will be to declare that he belongs to no religious sect whatever? If so, the canting hypocrites who have brought discredit upon the Christian faith will be responsible.

MISSIONS TO THE JEWS.

Somebody has sent us a copy of a quarterly review called *The East and the West*, which is described as being published "for the study of missionary problems." Our attention was attracted by an article on "Are Missions to the Jews Justifiable?" It is written with great moderation and respect, and its general tenor is that, although the Jews are undoubtedly a great religious race, Christianity demands their "conversion." This, however, is to be effected only by methods of "courtesy"—which were not exactly the methods of the Apostles! But we want to draw attention to two remarkable statements in the article. Here is one of them: "No religion other than that of the Jews has laid such stress on holiness and purity." Then why "convert" them? Here is the wonderful answer: "It may be that the Gospel will not be adequately interpreted till its true ancestors acknowledge it and help to explain its spiritual significance." But surely this is an argument for the conversion of the Christians!

MORE GRUESOME SALVATION.

The other day we commented on the conduct of a Salvation Army officer who preached in a shroud, with a death's-head mask. Here is another specimen of Army propaganda:—

THE SALVATION ARMY,
HOLLINWOOD.
ENSIGN RICH
WILL
PREACH in his COFFIN
Next Sunday at
6.45 p.m.
COME, SEE AND HEAR!

Of course, it will be said that this is the only way to reach the residuum. But if such things were done in the name of anything else than religion, there would be an outcry.

SCRIPTURE AND FREE TRADE.

The other day we gave a reader's idea of Scriptural authority for Tariff Reform. Another sends us this, in favour, he thinks, of Free Trade: Isaiah lx. 11:—

> "Therefore thy gates shall be open continually; they shall not be shut day nor night; that men may bring unto thee the forces of the Gentiles, and that their kings may be brought." See also v. 9 and 10.

We have "seen also" verses 9 and 10, but they do not strengthen the case.

THE TRUTH ABOUT SOUTH AFRICA.

The Johannesburg *Sunday Times* contains a report of a recent speech by General Brits at New Denmark. We do not know who exactly General Brits is, but he appears to be a person of some importance. And this is one of the things he said: "I earnestly appeal to parents to prevent their children marrying any of the English race. We must not let this colony become a bastard race, the same as Cape Colony. *If God had wanted us to be one race, He would not have made a distinction between English and Dutch.*" The General concluded by reminding his audience that "it was the English who had murdered 22,000 of their women and children during the late war"! We are gradually learning the truth about South Africa.

A SQUINTING BENCH.

Justice is blind; and there is good reason for believing that the Exeter magistrates squint. A few days since, they had to consider the case of the "Crown and Sceptre," a family and commercial hotel. The charge against the licensee was that of keeping open during prohibited hours; the charge against Martha Came, James Came, and William Hoare that of being on the premises after closing time. A policeman alleged he saw two men go into the house after 11.25 p.m. Five minutes afterwards he, two other policemen, and a sergeant raided the place. They found the two Cames and Hoare on the premises. None of them were drinking; but there were empty glasses on the table. The policeman admitted he could not say that Came and Hoare were the two men he saw enter the house. The sergeant said that when the premises were raided the landlord was in bed; also that the landlady explained to him that the people were lodging in the hotel; he further said that he did not know whether there had been any beer in the empty glasses since eleven o'clock. In short, the police did not bring one atom of proof against the landlord. In favour of the three people in the house, evidence was called that, Mrs. Came being taken suddenly ill, they had decided to stay the night, and did, in fact, so stay. The landlady swore nobody had entered the premises after 11 o'clock, and that no liquor of any kind had been supplied after that hour. James Came was proved to be a lifelong total abstainer. All this notwithstanding, the magistrates fined the landlord 10s. and costs; and though the three other defendants were each charged with the same offence—that of being on licensed premises after hours—the magistrates fined two of them 5s. and costs, and let off the teetotaler. To lend additional piquancy to this idiotic decision, it has only to be added that the majority of the bench are teetotalers. And they ought to be let off likewise.

OUR ELECTORAL SYSTEM.

Correspondence continues to pour in upon us in regard to our electoral system. It all amounts to proving the same thing in a hundred different ways; namely, that there is no "system" at all. At present, large numbers of people, whose employment renders them liable to removal from one district to another every two or three years, are being perpetually disenfranchised. As a matter of fact, neither Party disputes the obvious; it is only when one or the other suggests improvements in the system, for the supposed maximum benefit of their own supporters and the minimum benefit of their opponents, that the trouble arises. "No Plural Voting," says the Liberal—"One Vote, one Value," says the Tory, and so on.

A "DYING" INDUSTRY.

"Talk about the *dying* industries of Bath!" says a reader. And he encloses us the *Bath Herald* Almanack for 1911—in which 135 days are noted as the anniversaries of deaths!

THOSE RABBITS!

Probably colliery explosions could be sometimes explained by other causes than they are. Every collier knows that he is not allowed to take matches into a mine, yet some time ago the manager of the Harton Colliery, South Shields, found matches in the rails of the pit. How they got there, nobody could say. A few days ago, a search was instituted among the men who entered the pit, and the result was that a box of matches was discovered in the inner overcoat pocket of one of them. At the South Shields Police Court, the explanation of this man was that he had been feeding his rabbits before going to work in the morning, and had forgotten to take the matches out of his pocket. The explanation may be true; but it is a curious coincidence that in the Sunderland Police Court, on the same day, another collier, discovered in the mine with matches in his pocket, gave a precisely similar explanation. Whether true or not, it is a serious offence. The South Shields collier was fined £2 and costs; the case at Sunderland was dismissed. But then perhaps the Sunderland magistrates have never wondered how many colliery explosions, small and great, have been caused through feeding rabbits in the dark! It reminds us of the "chestnut" about the man who explained his possession of a dead rabbit, by saying he had laid his bag on the ground, and bunny must have strangled himself forcing his way inside!

THE M.P. AND THE FUNERAL.

Mr. Arthur Henderson, M.P., the late Chairman of the Labour Party, is certainly a very busy man when he gets among his constituents, for he does not even spare himself on Sundays. On a recent Sabbath he made a speech, and in the evening took the chair at a concert. On the following Sunday he preached morning and evening in the Primitive Methodist chapel, and in the afternoon attended a funeral, walking in front of the hearse with the minister. Many people, however, are of opinion that his visible attire on this occasion was somewhat too unconventional, consisting as it did, "of a brown tweed overcoat, brown kid gloves, and a slate-coloured hat." We are not enamoured of convention, but perhaps there is something to be said for the view of one of our correspondents, that when gentlemen attend funerals in a variegated garb of this description, they should take a less conspicuous place.

THE MAN WHO BROKE THE BANK.

Report has it that Captain de Courcy Bower, an Englishman, has won £200,000 within ten days at Monte Carlo. We trust he has since arrived home and purchased an estate. Many a man has begun by winning a large fortune at Monte Carlo and ended by going to the Administration to beg the favour of a railway fare home. Besides, we *have* heard false stories of big wins. The Casino people are clever advertisers!

A WORD WITH THE FOREIGN SECRETARY.

Sir Edward Grey ought not to want any prodding in regard to the White Sea Fisheries Bill now before the Russian Duma. The Bill seeks to confer upon the Government of Archangel the power of extending the territorial limit from three miles to twelve. If it passes, it will inflict a most serious blow to British fishing in the White Sea. The Foreign Minister has, we trust, made a strong protest, and will, we hope, stick to it.

TAXING HANDBILLS.

The Municipal Council of Paris have decided to impose a tax on all handbills which are distributed in the streets, which, needless to say, cause great annoyance, especially in the most frequented quarters of the City. Will the County Council consider the question of obtaining similar powers?

AN EX-OFFICER—*and* AN EX-GENTLEMAN.

The temerity of some people is amazing; and Mr. Trevor Hill, ex-lieutenant in the Queen's Bays, is one of the some. Mr. Hill had himself obtained employment with the United Service Assurance Company. Some time afterwards, Major Westmacott, late of the Welsh Regiment, applied for a position in a rival company. Mr. Hill was told of this, and, apparently actuated by jealousy and spite, he informed its manager that Major Westmacott had been "chucked out" of a club at Malta or Gibraltar for cheating at cards. As there was not the smallest justification for this cowardly and vindictive slander, Major Westmacott received the appointment, and afterwards took the earliest opportunity of endeavouring to impress upon Mr. Hill the Ninth Commandment. The opportunity came at Bordon Camp, where the Major "caught the ex-lieutenant by the throat and flogged him till he was tired, as any other gentleman would have done"—or, at all events, like any other gentleman who could. In these circumstances, it can be well understood that Mr. Hill cut somewhat of a sorry figure when he brought the Major before the Whitehill bench and was informed that, in their opinion, there was justification for the assault; therefore, they imposed the nominal penalty of 3s. and costs. With which decision we heartily agree.

"CANADIAN EMIGRANTS, BEWARE!"

Our recent articles upon the state of things in Canada have brought us a flood of correspondence from the Dominion—much of it praising our outspokenness, some condemnatory. Several Canadian readers have also sent us some of the Canadian journals. Being American in their get-up, the real news is conveyed in the headlines. Here are some of them. "Mother and Boy Frozen—Tragedy of the Prairie—Had been Lost in Blizzard Within a Few Yards of their Home—Found Buried in Snow." "Is this Darkest Ontario? Son Follows Father to Penitentiary for Offence Against His Sisters." "Calgary is Swarming with Unemployed for whom Relief is Sought—Commissioners Urged to Establish Municipal Lodging House, Where Men Might Work Out Beds and Meals." "Old Council Chamber to be Used as Shelter for the Unemployed." "A Record Cold Spell in Winnipeg—The Mercury Fluttering Around Anywhere from 30 to 40 Below Zero." "Police Cells are in a Very Filthy Condition." "Objection to Singing British National Airs—Trouble over 'Rule Britannia' where American Children Invited." Canadian Emigrants, Beware!

MR. OBED SMITH SNUBBED,

By the way, we were somewhat amused to read in one of these journals that Mr. Obed Smith, the Assistant Superintendent of Emigration in England, "makes light" of the revelations which we have from time to time made regarding the working of this department. "The Board, however, does not believe that the matter should be dropped in this manner, and further correspondence will be carried on to see what course can be taken." Poor Mr. Obed Smith!

SCULPTURE AND CLOTHING.

We rather agree with the editor of *The Tailor and Cutter*. He points out that scarcely any sculptor studies the elements of tailoring. Yet, it seems to us, that tailoring is as essential to modern sculpture as anatomy. If you put clothes on an effigy at all, you ought to get them accurate, just as much as the bones. At the same time, modern clothes are so ugly (except in the case of a Lord Mayor or a Spanish Admiral) that we almost wish sculptors would go back to the old classical method of representing their victims *in puris naturalibus*. But even then, Mrs. Grundy might grumble.

UNABLE TO AGREE.

William Millican, Lee House, Tynehead, was recently charged at Alston Police Court with illtreating two sheep-dogs. The defendant had pushed a piece of wire through the nose of each of the animals. The wire was turned up at the end like a fish hook and protruded about 1½ inches. The object was admittedly that of preventing the dogs from snapping at the sheep; "if they ran at the sheep and snapped at the wool, the protruding wire got caught in the wool, and caused pain to the dogs, and cured them of the habit." The defendant pleaded that what he did was in accordance with custom, but this the prosecution denied. Whether it is a custom or not, there is not a shadow of a doubt that it is a barbarous, cruel and ineffective practice, and that a conviction should have followed. Yet "the Chairman announced that the Bench had carefully considered the case, and were unable to agree." As the facts of the cruelty were undisputed and apparently indisputable, we are not surprised that this termination of the proceedings has aroused something like dismay among lovers of animals in the district.

THE POLICEMAN AND THE TIMEPIECE.

A case at Wotton-under-Edge Petty Sessions reveals a serious miscarriage of justice. The police brought a charge against George Mann of stealing a clock from the premises of a Mr. Perrett, at Bournstream. Mann pleaded "Not Guilty," and implicated a local policeman as being the actual thief of the clock. According to the story of the accused, he found the policeman "down home" with a man he knew, and he was asked to go out with them. He went as far as Perrett's, and presently the policeman came out with the clock and asked him to keep it for him in the attic of his house. "If the constable had not called for me," said Mann, "I should not have went and got in this trouble." This statement was corroborated by the man who was present when the policeman asked the accused to go with him, who accompanied both of them part of the way, and who presently met them again, the policeman then having the clock with him. The magistrates dismissed the case, though "they were very much impressed by the accused's folly and want of caution." But what of the policeman? Why has not he been charged with the theft on this damning evidence? Superintendent Perkins informed the court that the officer had been "allowed to resign"! Is that to be the end? Is this man, engaged in the duty of preventing and detecting crime, to be permitted to escape trial? The duty of Superintendent Perkins, or whatever local authority is in control of the police, is obvious

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COPYING THE SALVATIONISTS.

A New Year's card sent out by the vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Clapham—at any rate it bears the title of that church, whether the rev. gentleman sent it out or not—must be grossly offensive to everybody of refined religious sense. "Are you insured for 1911?" it begins. Then it proceeds as follows: "If not, try the King's Insurance Co., Greatest, Oldest, and Only Absolutely Reliable Fire, Marine and Life Insurance Company in the World. Some Reasons for Insuring in this Company: (1) It is the only Company insuring against loss on the Great Judgment Day. (2) It has never changed its Management. (3) Its policies never expire. (4) It insures a man for more than he is worth." Were we to indulge in this sort of thing, we should doubtless be violently assailed. If those responsible for the issue of the card are not ashamed of degrading the Almighty to the plane of an elaborate jest, there is nothing more to be said. But, of course, they should know best what pleases their congregation.

PARSON AND "MITE."

The beautiful Christian charity of the Rev. A. W. Bell, vicar of St. Augustine's, Nottingham, is as a light before men. In his parish magazine appears a notice of the choir festival. "The only disparaging remark we have to make," it concludes, "is that the afternoon congregation contributed less than 3d. per head, which means that some insulted the Majesty of God by daring to give a penny or even less to the maintenance of our services of worship and praise." We wonder whether in his reading of the classics he has chanced upon a famous story of the widow and her mite?

THE CORNISH FISHERMEN.

In reply to our recent query as to whether the Imperial Sunday Alliance were authorised by the Cornish fishermen to speak in their name in attempting to secure the abolition of Sunday fishing on the Cornish coast, the Assistant-Missioner of the Alliance, the Rev. E. W. Shepheard-Walwyn, assures us the Alliance is so authorised. So far so good. Now will he favour us with information as to the form of the mandate and the proportion of Cornish fishermen by whom it is supported? We are against seven days' labour a week for anybody where six days will serve, but that everybody should go on strike on one particular day of the week is in modern conditions of society unthinkable. Rest for some implies work for others, and the conditions must be rationally considered in the light of each particular case. The Rev. Shepheard-Walwyn tells us that "our coast fishermen are all unanimous for compulsory cessation of Sunday fishing." Well, if they are "all" unanimous, why compulsion? All they have to do is to cease fishing—and there you are. Of course, if only some of them were "unanimous"—well, there you are again!

A "STOUT" TEETOTALER.

Mr. John Walsh, of the Ballinrobe Guardians, is very angry because the medical officer of the workhouse allowed the inmates to have a glass of stout each at Christmas. It was pointed out to the worthy guardian, however, that the stout cost the ratepayers nothing. "I don't care," retorted Mr. Walsh; "they ought not to have had it." Mr. Walsh, in fact, stands on principle; the principle of preventing others from doing what he does not want to do himself.

THE RECORDER OF DUDLEY.

There was a strong representative bench to support Mr. W. J. Disturnal, the Recorder, when he sat at Dudley Quarter Sessions the other day—to wit, the Mayor, Mr. J. A. Hillman, Mr. L. Jewkes, and Mr. J. Nichols. On this auspicious occasion, "David Henley, labourer, was indicted with stealing from a till 1½d., the money of Walter Smith, Netherton. Chief Superintendent Speke said prisoner was of weak intellect, and had a mania for robbing tills. The Recorder said he had previously at that court sentenced the prisoner to a term of imprisonment, and he appeared to be incorrigible. He would now be sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour." Peradventure, the Recorder is also not quite responsible for his actions.

BE CIVIL TO ROBERT.

Here is an interesting item from Brentford. "George Best," says the *Middlesex County Times*, "has been fined 5s. for not being civil." The summons was for riding without a light, and the constable said that had the defendant been civil he might have "let him off." This is a lesson in civility to everybody. Always speak nicely to a policeman.

A RUMOUR FROM BELFAST.

What is this funny story we hear about the tobacco frauds upon the Belfast Revenue authorities? Something about an electro-magnet being switched on under the scale containing the weights, with the result that sixteen pounds were weighed out as twelve! We *have* heard names, but must not mention them—yet.

INTELLIGENT ANTICIPATION.

Last session we obtained a conditional promise from Mr. Lloyd George to set up a Standing Committee on Estimates. Now our good contemporary, the *Star*, comes out with a leading article demanding this reform, but divil a word about our part in bringing it about. Not cricket.

ANOTHER INSPIRATION.

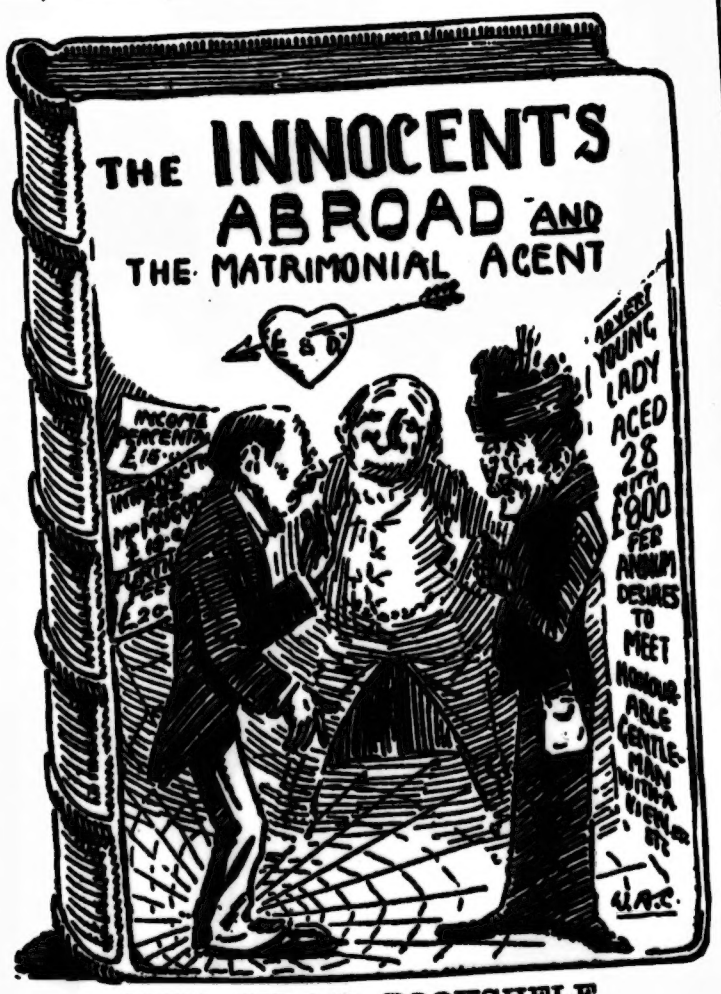
And here is the *Westminster Gazette* coolly suggesting, ostensibly of its own initiative, that unclaimed bank balances ought to be handed over to the State! Perhaps the *Daily News* or the *Chronicle* will now hit upon the idea of a Business Government.

SANDY MCNAB.

Sandy McNab takes exception to our recent reference to his purchase and occupation of "Crippen House," and tells us a remarkable story. More anon.

THE WEEK'S "CHESTNUT":—

A father, visiting his son in one of the big cities, was anxious to see vaudeville. The son took him to one of the finest shows in town and gave him a good seat. One of the turns, a young lady, came on in an opera-cloak, and gave a little song. Next time, she appeared dressed in short skirts and danced. A third time she showed herself in a bathing suit, and sang a seaside ditty. When she made her bow to the audience for the third time, the old man turned to his son, and said: "Gee! I hope she comes out again."


THE INNOCENTS ABROAD AND THE MATRIMONIAL AGENT
£ s. d.
ADVERT
YOUNG LADY AGED 28 WITH £800 PER ANNUM DESIRES TO MEET HONOURABLE GENTLEMAN WITH A VIEW TO MATRIMONY
U.A.C.

JOHN BULL'S BOOKSHELF.

"John Bull's" Biscuits.

AGE.—Biscuits are not given to general servants "3 to one," or to veterans of 8 years of age. The ages of the former are often inscrutable, while the latter may be enjoying their second childhood.

PATENT MEDICINES.—We do not give biscuits to patent medicine vendors for the injunction to the public to get "the same pills as Mr. Robinson had."

BRIDEGROOMS.—No more wedding cake for these harmless, necessary adjuncts when they go away "in a costume of rose viens, trimmed with glace, with hat to match." They evidently foresee who is destined to wear the breeches, and they are lucky to get away at all.

MARRIAGES IN THE DEATHS' COLUMN.—No biscuits for these. They are often the grave of love.

LODGERS.—No biscuits for widows who want young men to share room. Most of them do.

For stating that the bridesmaids at a wedding "wore gold jewelled BREECHES, *the gifts of the bridegroom,"*
THE WEST KIRBY NEWS AND ADVERTISER
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating, in its report of a "Boys' Own Brotherhood" meeting: "Mr. Sharpe gave an interesting address on 'The Tongue.' A solo hymn was sung by Mr. E. S. Nelson, and Miss Annie Hughes sang a solo entitled 'All Change.' After, an enjoyable time was spent,"
THE WORCESTERSHIRE ECHO
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For the sentence, "A Central News Berlin telegram states the missing BALLROOM *'Hildebrand,' which was believed to have been blown seawards, has just been found in Lake Joern."*
THE MANCHESTER EVENING NEWS.
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating, "As usual, our people are engaged in the fruitless round-game of locking the horse up after the stable door has been LOST,"
THE CLARION
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For advertising in the "Cork Examiner," "Wanted, a reliable man to FOLLOW HORSE AND COLLECT EGGS,"
MR. JOHN LYNCH (Knocknalilan, Aherla, Co. Cork)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For issuing a handbill warning the public against "unscrupulous dealers," who "foist second-hand machines upon their customers as new ones," and adding "Don't be tricked into buying an old sewing machine: TO AVOID ALL POSSIBILITY OF MISTAKE, *purchase only at a Singer shop, or from a Singer salesman,"*
THE SINGER SEWING MACHINE CO., LTD.,
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating, "In the Thames Valley, where they had 12 DAYS *of frost* OVERNIGHT, *there was excellent ice in parts,"*
THE DAILY SKETCH
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For referring, in the Battalion Orders, to "the Royal MOUNTED *Light Infantry,"*
"T. H. F. PRICE, Captain and Adjutant, 6th Battalion,
The Royal Warwickshire Regiment."
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

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*For announcing that "*AFTER THIS CIRCULAR WAS PRINTED*" they had received "instructions" that they were the "successful purchasers" of certain goods,*
MESSRS. DREVER, PANTON AND CO. (Nicolson Street, Harwich),
TAKE THE BISCUIT.

For stating, "The famous Dervish leader, Osman Digna, who lived a charmed life during his activities against the British in the Sudan, IS STILL ALIVE, *an old man of eighty or thereabouts, and is* INTERRED *at Wady Halfa,"*
THE CARDIFF EVENING EXPRESS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in a chapter on Delhi, in its publication "Travel for the Coronation Year," "The Peacock Throne is broken up, and the EMERALD *which adorned it, the Koh-i-Noor, is now among the Crown jewels in the Tower,"*
CONTINENTAL TRAVEL, LTD.,
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

GHASTLY HOSPITAL HORROR.

HOW DEAD INFANTS ARE TREATED AT THE GREAT ORMOND STREET HOSPITAL.

On October 30th, 1910, Mrs. Bailey was delivered of a boy child. He was a bonnie boy, but a month afterwards he was taken ill with vomiting, and as the father of the child is only in humble circumstances (a 'bus conductor) it was thought better to take the baby to a hospital. Accordingly on the morning of November 28th, its grandmother—the mother being ill—took it to the Hospital for Sick Children in Great Ormond Street, and there it remained. The grandmother visited it constantly, and from time to time postcards were sent to the mother describing its progress towards convalescence.

At 9.30 a.m. on December 9, the mother received a telegram, which ran: "Come at once; baby ill." This telegram was signed by Sister Alice Ward. The grandmother immediately went to the hospital, and saw the child at 10.30. It died at 8 p.m. next day, Saturday, December 10th, being then six weeks old.

The mother was directed to send the undertaker at 8.30 on Monday, December 12th, and when she suggested an earlier hour, was told it could not be delivered earlier. Accordingly the undertaker, Mr. Clatworthy, of Camden Town, was instructed to bring away the child on Monday evening, but it happened that he was prevented by another engagement from going to the hospital on that evening, and so went the next day for the body, and delivered it at the house of the grandmother, where the mother was staying, at 9 p.m. on December 13th. We should say that on the Monday, December 12th, the mother had gone to the hospital at three o'clock for the certificate of death, and when there she asked the porter if she might see the baby. "Oh," said he, "you don't want to see it now. It is stinking by this time." Nor was she allowed to see it.

Upon the undertaker delivering the child he told the grandmother not to touch the infant. Nor did she touch it that night. She saw the face, and the undertaker shut down the coffin. On Wednesday, however, the grandmother said to her daughter, the mother of the child, "We will put on some clothes." For the mother had kept saying, "Baby will feel cold when buried." And the mother went to the coffin with the grandmother. The latter lifted up the little head, and as she examined it she saw that the brains had been taken out of the head, and the skin stitched with stitches 1½ inches long. The tongue was tied in the mouth, which would not shut. Two holes were made in the neck to tie the tongue.

The mother upon seeing and recognising what it all meant, became unconscious, and was carried to bed. The grandmother went for the undertaker, and he came back with her, accompanied by a neighbour, Mrs. Cotterel. The undertaker, Clatworthy, turned to the grandmother and said, "You know you ought not to touch anything that comes from the Great Ormond Street Hospital. It is the only hospital where nurses coffin children after 8 o'clock at night." She then lifted up the head and put a white woollen hat over it. Further examination showed that the body had been cut from the throat to the pubic bone and stitched up again with the same long stitches as those used in the head. When the child was held up it was found that the stomach was packed with cotton-wool as hard as a football.

The baby was buried on the 16th, and the mother became dangerously ill from shock. At the time she was verging on puerperal mania, and the shock sent her over the borderland. On learning the facts the father went to the hospital and saw Dr. Wainwright. He asked the doctor to give him what had been taken from the child in order that it might be buried with it, but the doctor told him that nothing had been taken. High words followed, and it says much for the father that he committed no breach of the peace.

After the burial of the child the grandmother wrote to the hospital authorities for an explanation, and it is only fair to them that we should give their reply *in extenso*. It is dated from the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, January 11th, 1911, and is signed by the Secretary, Mr. Steward Johnson. It runs as below:—

> I am in receipt of your letter of the 10th Jan., in reply to which I have to inform you that no objection to an examination was made at the granting of the death certificate, or within 24 hours of the death of your grandchild, E. F. Bailey, and therefore, in accordance with the rules which were handed to the guardians of the child on its admission, an examination was made, though not *until three days after death*.
>
> I enclose a copy of the rules for your information and you will find the rule referred to printed in red ink. In reply to your further complaint I have to inform you that the body was returned complete, and no parts retained as you state.

Upon this communication we have several observation to make. In the first place the grandmother says that is was she who took the child to the hospital, and that no rulet were handed to her. Nor were they handed to anyone belonging to the child, either upon the occasion of its admission or afterwards. She also says it is not true that no parts of the infant were retained by the hospital authorities. Upon these points we can at the moment express no definite opinion. It is word against word, or to be accurate it is oath—the oath of the grandmother—against the word of the Secretary, who, of course, could not have any personal knowledge of the facts referred to in his letter. But upon other parts of the letter we desire to make some comments. It will be seen that certain "Rules" are referred to by the Secretary. These we have before us, and the first regulation states that "The child must be between 2 and 12 years of age." These regulations, therefore, upon which the Secretary relies, refer to children between the ages of 2 and 12, and cannot apply to the child with which we are dealing, whose age at the time of death was 6 weeks. We may perhaps quote the paragraph referred to by the Secretary which, as he says, is printed in red ink, and runs:—

> In the event of death, a *post-mortem* examination will be made unless objection should be made by the parent or guardian to the resident medical officer within 24 hours of the death, or at the granting of the death certificate, if the same be granted within such 24 hours.

Upon that we say that if it had applied to this infant (and as we have shown it applies only to children between the ages of 2 and 12) it was not shown to the guardians of the child, and the law requires the special permission of parents of children before the hospital authorities make a *post-mortem* examination of children after death. Is it conceivable that this poor young mother of 24, whose first child has been hacked about as this one has been, and who went mad upon the horrible sight that met her gaze when the child came home, would have given her consent to a *post-mortem* examination if that consent had been asked for? Moreover, the authorities of this hospital claim the right to perform a *post-mortem* when there is no specific objection on the part of parent or guardian. We say the law gives them no such right. The law requires the specific assent of the parent.

And where was the need for the *post-mortem* examination in this case? There was no mystery about the cause of death. It was stated upon the certificate of death. The child died of marasmus. So far as we can see, the *post-mortem* was wanted to get hold of the peritoneal and other glands for the purpose of examination, which would account for the removal of the contents of the abdominal cavity, and possibly also those of the skull.

Now, we have a few plain words to say to the Committee of this hospital. There is something radically wrong about its administration. *Mrs. Bull* has called attention to certain grave and ghastly cases reflecting in the gravest possible manner upon the hospital authorities. Up to the present no reply of any kind has been vouchsafed to that journal. And everybody is aghast at the apparent indifference of the Committee. Let them clearly understand that we shall not submit to such treatment. The hospital is supported by public charity; it is charged with the care of helpless little children—and we demand a reply to the charges which have been brought against it. Failing its early receipt, we shall take all necessary steps to force the hands of the authorities—even if we have to invoke the aid of Parliament.

INFANT LABOUR SCANDAL.

THE TRAFFIC IN TENDER FLESH AND BLOOD MUST BE STAMPED OUT.

We have repeatedly called attention to the injustice inflicted by Canadian officials upon men and women leaving this country for that doubtful land of promise. But what language is adequate to describe the atrocities perpetrated upon the children exported from this country—where the humane Factory Acts are too stringent to permit their owners to exploit to the last ounce their puny strength in laborious toil—to the land of cold and scantiness, where—remote from human aid—their taskmasters can do as they please with "their own"—the chattel of flesh and blood for which they have paid? It is true that these indentured child-labourers—euphemistically termed "adopted children"—are under the nominal guardianship of a Government official, but, as will be seen from the following paragraphs (taken from the *Evening Telegram*, Toronto, of January 6th), it is impossible, in so vast a country and with so scattered a community, to adequately safeguard the young lives committed to the care of farmers, sometimes brutal and ignorant:—

BARNARDO BOYS ILL-USED.
TILBURY FARMERS ACCUSED.

ONE YOUNGSTER, AGED 13, HAS HAD BOTH FEET SO BADLY FROZEN THAT THEY MAY HAVE TO BE AMPUTATED.

Chatham, Jan. 6.—With his feet so badly frozen that it is likely that both may have to be amputated, his back covered with blue and red welts, a Barnardo boy, aged 13, who had been put in the care of a farmer of Tilbury East, was brought to this city by Inspector Kinder, and will be sent to Toronto for treatment.

Another Barnardo boy, who also worked for another farmer in Tilbury, and who showed signs of abuse, was brought in with him. Informations for cruelty to children will be laid against both farmers.

When Inspector Kinder visited the place in Tilbury East he found the boy out in the cold doing a man's work on a cross-cut saw. He was working with his frozen feet encased in No. 10 shoes, and every step he took made the big boot rub the raw flesh of his foot.

It was also found that his back was covered with welts made by a heavy horse tug.

ANOTHER CASE.

Hamilton, Jan. 6.—One of the S.O.E. lodges of this city is investigating a case of alleged cruelty. The victim is James Breese, 16 years of age, who is in the City Hospital. He is reported to have been nearly frozen, and his condition is critical. It is said that he was employed by a farmer, who forced him to sleep in a barn without proper protection from the elements.

RISKY ROLLER SKATING.

A FEW WORDS WITH THE MANAGEMENT OF THE PALMER'S GREEN RINK."

When, last autumn, the Rosalie Skating Rink opened at Palmer's Green, the prospect of its success appeared very bright. It has not, however, paid, and we think the reason is not far to seek.

There is at the Rosalie permitted a form of rowdyism which is strictly put down at other rinks, skaters being allowed to career round backwards, at very high speed, to the imminent danger of others using the rink in the usual way. Several nasty falls have resulted to innocent persons, and that a grave accident has not happened is merely a matter of luck, and is due in no way to the care of the authorities.

On the walls of the rink appears a somewhat humorous notice that the proprietors do not "assume" liability for accidents. They, of course, have no need to assume it—it is fixed upon them by the common law, and we can assure them that, should injury accrue to an innocent skater through their negligence in not stopping the dangerous practice to which we have referred, such notice would not enable them to evade liability.

THE writer of a letter who signs himself "A Suitor," and address from Westbourne Grove, is requested to send us in confidence his full name and address.

L. AND S. W. RAILWAY SIGNAL LADS AND MESSENGERS.

A NEW REGULATION INVOLVING GREAT HARDSHIP.

The following letter, from a member of the Signalling Staff of the L. and S. W. Railway Company, speaks for itself, and appears to indicate a real grievance. We commend it to the attention of the directors:—

I wish to bring to your notice a very great hardship which has just been inflicted on the signal lads and messengers engaged in the London District of the South Western Railway.

The pay of these boys and youths is miserably poor, varying between six and twelve shillings per week—seven or eight being, however, about the average, only the oldest getting the higher figure. Large numbers of these lads have been in the habit of giving the bulk, and, in many cases the whole, of their wages towards the support of their homes, only keeping for themselves what they could earn by going up to Waterloo when off duty and doing porters' work. This has always been recognised as a legitimate method of augmenting their income, and no hardship or inconvenience was caused to anyone else by the arrangement. There is always plenty of work for all at Waterloo Station, especially at busy times, when, without this additional help, much waiting and inconvenience would often be caused to passengers.

There have just been some changes made in the station-master's department at Waterloo, however, and towards the end of last week an order was issued forbidding any lads not actually engaged at the station from coming up to do porters' work. A very large number of lads are employed as messengers and signal boys in the district between Waterloo, Richmond and Kingston, and these are all now in the position of having had their incomes cut down suddenly by considerably more than half. In very many cases, acute distress is already evident, and the lads have undoubtedly a great grievance. Lads engaged in the same capacity in outlying districts can, of course, do porters' work at their own stations. Living is also much cheaper in the country.

What seems particularly unfair and inconsistent is, that signalmen earning from 30s. to £2 per week may and do still go up and do porters' work; the regulation only applying to the lads.

"A BUSINESS GOVERNMENT AND ITS CRITICS."

MR. RAMSAY MACDONALD AND THE GOVERNMENT.

This is how our recent article on Mr. Ramsay Macdonald's attitude towards a Business Government strikes "A Working Man":—

Your journal is doing yeoman's service by bringing to light such instances of political decadence as that of Ramsay Macdonald. Time was when the genuine Labour Member was a political Ishmael with nothing to gain by adopting a fawning attitude towards the Party in power. Such were the days when men like Thomas Burt and John Burns fought honestly for the interests of the working classes, and before those interests became a mere pawn in the game of log-rolling and self-aggrandisement.

It was a lucky day for the Liberal Party (looking at it from a *mere* Party point of view) when they hit upon the ingenious expedient of doling out just a few of the smaller loaves and fishes to certain docile units in the Labour Party. It made poor John Burns the object of envious hate amongst his aforetime colleagues, but it opened up a wonderful vista to the professional politicians of the Labour Party—up to that time, an insignificant percentage.

Well, after all, as long as we are to have professional politicians, the working classes are entitled to their share of the spoils, I suppose; but, as Lord Morley once said of a mote harmless animal—the elephant—we all know one when we see him! And when we find him licking the boots of a Liberal Government, approving of everything it does, and generally adopting an attitude of nauseous adulation towards Cabinet Ministers, we can value at its true worth the unctuous rectitude of his "detestations" and "prejudices." Verily, if the Business Government is delayed for long he will have his reward.

We commend these remarks to Mr. Macdonald.

BEWARE OF THE MORMONS!—II.

ARE THEY HOME-WRECKERS AND DECOYERS OF YOUNG GIRLS?

OUR SPECIAL COMMISSIONER'S ENQUIRIES AT LIVERPOOL.

We continue our Special Commissioner's Report. It will be remembered that last week he was quoting a book by Mr. Freece on "Mormonism."

Just one more quotation from this book:—"In the month of October, 1899, a starving man came to me, pleading for something to eat. I could hardly believe my eyes. Just 39 years before this man had been a guest at my house in Central Utah. He was at that time on his way to the Endowment House in Salt Lake with his wife, her baby, and the hired girl, where he intended to make the latter his plural wife. On the morrow his wife expressed a desire to remain at my home until her husband and his newly-acquired wife should return from Salt Lake. As soon as they were on their way and out of hearing, the mother, with her babe held closely to her breast, came rushing into the house, flung herself on the floor, and cried:—'Now they have gone. My God, my God, how can I bear it! I would rather see him in his grave than go off with that woman!' With frightened excitement the little babe held closely to its mother's neck while she sobbed: 'If it was not for this little thing, I would drown myself. But how can I destroy my child?' We tried to comfort her by saying that her husband was only obeying the law which the Lord had given to Joseph Smith, the prophet, and that her husband was a good man in that he was obeying the commands of God in taking another wife. The wretched woman, having calmed herself somewhat, but still sitting on the floor with her child, continued: 'Oh! if I had only done it! But I could not. How many nights have I wandered on the banks of the creek near our home, intending to throw my child into the water and then drown myself; but I could not. I was afraid that I might kill my baby and then not have the courage to take my own life. But then I would think of my husband sitting in the kitchen with the hired maid, and make a new resolve to end my life, but the roaring of the cold water would frighten me away. Going to the house, I would find them sitting together in the dark kitchen, he lavishing all his affections upon her, with never a kind word for me. Some times I would speak sharply to them, and then again softly, almost always weeping, but he never loves me, nor does he speak a kind word to me. It is always the same cruel rebuke—I was an apostate, a devil; and did not love the Lord, nor heed His commands.'

"Ten years after the above events he was sent on a mission to Europe. Returning in two years, he brought back a beautiful, innocent Danish girl just in her 'teens. They were married in the temple before going to his southern home. In the meantime, his first wife had gone to make her home with a grown son. When he arrived home with his new bride his second wife refused her admittance. She in turn was beginning to reap the fruits of the Mormon curse. He also realised within the next few years that to live the Mormon religion required an abundance of natural grace. On one occasion when he was leaving the dwelling of his second wife she followed him to the river's bank, pushed him into the deep water, and then, when he had reached safety and had gone to his third wife, the second still followed and threw stones at them through the window. The poor young and inexperienced girl was overcome with fright. She had been taught by the Mormon missionaries that Zion was a land of love, peace and plenty. It was a sad awakening for her. Although she had just become a mother, she decided quickly, and that night went out from that roof never to return."

Our Special Commissioner is still prosecuting his enquiries.

Meanwhile we give a few facts which should assist our readers in forming a true judgment upon this important matter. Let it be clearly understood that we have every desire to be fair to the Mormons. In some respects, it is an admirable community. Poverty is practically unknown amongst them. Settled in a fertile district, industrious and temperate in their habits, and shrewd in all their dealings, they have been remarkably prosperous from a material point of view. But the point is whether polygamy continues to be practised amongst them. It is not sufficient to say that the law of the United States makes such a practice illegal. The question is whether the law is enforced, and we have the Report of the Committee of the American Senate, appointed to enquire into the matter, that it is not. Nor is it any answer to say that girls who have arrived at the legal age of responsibility are free to go if they like. It is our duty, if not to protect them, at any rate to give them warning of the true state of things at Salt Lake City.

FIGURES FROM BOSTON.

We have seen a report from the Emigration Agent-General at Boston, who states that some 800 women were landed at that port from Europe, coming almost entirely from England and Scandinavia, and sent out by the Mormon organisation. Boston, it should be remembered, is but one of four ports where these Mormons land, the others being New York, Montreal and New Orleans.

WHAT THE SENATE SAYS.

We have also seen the report of the Committee of the United States Senate, which proves to the hilt, if any proof were necessary, that the solemn undertakings of the Mormon elders some twenty years ago, when the United States Government determined finally to break up the organisation, have been persistently broken, and that to-day polygamy is still very prevalent—anyway, among the leaders.

GERMANY'S ACTION.

It should also be borne in mind that the German Government has expelled all Mormon missionaries from that country.

AN OLD MAN'S GRIEF.

Only three or four days ago we had a visit from an old man, a decent old fellow with an honourable record, who asked us to expose a similar organisation. Their agents are inducing young girls to go to America and to become members of this community. He tells us that his only daughter, a girl of nineteen, who had obtained a situation in the Post Office, and until she met these men was living a happy and respectable life, has been persuaded by the Agents to go to America and join the new sect—whose "religion" is run, apparently, on lines not dissimilar to those of the Smyth-Pigott institution. This old man, at great cost to himself, is now leaving for America, in the hope that he may get over in time to save his girl, and induce her to come home with him.

(To be continued.)

NEXT WEEK, a Special Article by MR. BOTTOMLEY—

"PLAIN WORDS TO THE PREMIER."

SWEATED POST OFFICE TELEPHONISTS.

A STRONG CASE FOR REFORM.

When the Post Office in 1902 began to develop its existing telephonic system, a number of men were taken on to perform the night telephone working, and the conditions imposed were 72 hours per week, all-night attendances, including Sundays, at a commencing wage of 25s. weekly, rising to a maximum of 30s. It was not long, however, before these men began to realise that their hours of duty—equivalent to 82 hours per week day-attendance—were greater than the scavengers and dustmen employed by municipal bodies in London, and that their maximum pay was no higher in many cases than that paid by municipal authorities for their lowest form of labour. A vigorous agitation was started by these night operators, which has now been carried on for upwards of five years, for an improvement in their scale of pay, extra payment for Sunday attendances, reduction of hours, and security of tenure in the direction of established appointments; but with the exception of a reduction of hours to 54 per week, all-night duty, no improvements have resulted. The representations made by the men were considered by Mr. Sydney Buxton when Postmaster-General, and he stated that, having regard to the nature of the work performed, the wages were sufficient remuneration. However, nothing daunted, they presented their case to the Trade Union Congress at Ipswich in 1908, where a resolution was passed condemning the Post Office authorities for their violation of the Trade Union principle of a 48-hour week, and protesting generally against the conditions of service imposed upon these Government employees.

Early in 1909 the Parliamentary Committee of the Trade Union Congress waited upon the present Postmaster-General, Mr. Herbert Samuel, in connection with this and other postal matters; but in regard to the case of the telephone operators, Mr. Samuel stated that he did not think it was a matter he should debate with that deputation, but that he was prepared to discuss the question with the men themselves. Mr. Samuel then made this important statement—"In regard to the case of the night operators, I might say that last night I went personally and examined the conditions of night working. I am satisfied that the work goes on all through the night, and I am closely looking into that question; also I am making further enquiry with regard to the conditions, which, in some respects, are not quite as they should be."

The deputation were satisfied with this statement, and thought the cause of the men was as good as won.

Subsequently, the men's representatives were invited to a *private* interview with Mr. Samuel to discuss their case, but instead of a private interview with that gentleman, they found the Postmaster-General accompanied by no less than five heads of the permanent staff of the Post Office. This elaborate congregation of official chiefs to consider the conditions of service of a staff numbering less than one hundred men! The arguments put forward by the men were not controverted in any way, and at the conclusion of the interview Mr. Samuel again promised to give the matter careful consideration. After a lapse of some months, and not until a request had been made for a reply to be given to the points raised, the following communication was received:—"The Postmaster-General regrets that he is unable to hold out any prospects of established appointments, or to throw open any additional outlets for promotion, but he is glad to be able to create three additional supervising allowances of 4s. a week, and four of 3s. a week upon seven duties." A total of 24s. a week among seven members—some of whom have been compelled to decline the allowance owing to their inability to meet the expense of removing near to the exchanges where the allowances have been allocated, which are distantly situated from their present residences! This is the result of a year's deliberation by Mr. Samuel, who expressed himself as not satisfied with the men's conditions of service, stating to the Trade Union deputation that he was a social reformer, and in sympathy with Trade Union principles, and that the State should be a good employer!

By inadvertence, the price of "Who's Who" was stated in our recent reference to that useful work to be 15s., it being published by Messrs. A. and C. Black at 10s. net—which makes it but the better value for money.

THE VALUE OF A GUARANTEE.

HOW MESSRS. BROWN, SHIPLEY AND CO. INTERPRET IT.

It sometimes happens that a person is disposed to accept a situation but is not quite certain as to the character or means of those who offer it. He then, if he is a prudent man and is able to do so, gets a guarantor, who agrees to insure the due fulfilment of the contract. This was the position in which Mr. William Bellinger Northrop found himself in the spring of 1909. Mr. Northrop had been offered, and was inclined to accept, the position of managing director to the Weiner Agency at a salary of £600 per annum, the agreement being for two years as from May, 1909. But Mr. Northrop had not much confidence in the manager of the Agency, an American, one Captain Clarence Weiner, and so he went to the well-known bankers, Messrs. Brown, Shipley and Co., and in consideration of the payment of £12 they guaranteed "that the said remuneration of £600 per annum should be paid by the Company to the said William Bellinger Northrop for two years if he should so long live and retain the post of Managing Director of the Company."

Mr. Northrop, after receiving his remuneration up to and including that which became payable on December 1st, 1909, was dismissed by the Weiner Agency, and when he applied to Messrs. Brown, Shipley and Co. for his salary, they refused to pay it, on the ground that the Weiner Agency had informed them that he had been dismissed for misconduct, and, until a Court of Law decreed the contrary, they should not consider themselves any longer bound by the guarantee.

Up to this point the action of Messrs. Brown, Shipley and Co. was not open to criticism, and Mr. Northrop did not complain of it. He had to prove that he had been wrongfully dismissed, and that could only be done in a Court of Law. He instituted proceedings against them, which were heard on June 21st, 1910, when a verdict was given for Mr. Northrop. Mr. Justice Warrington found that there had been wrongful dismissal, and that Messrs. Brown, Shipley and Co. were bound by the guarantee.

In their defence, Messrs. Brown, Shipley and Co. said that they were "ready and willing to carry out the said agreement if the same is still operative and effective." Mr. Justice Warrington decided that it was "operative and effective." Messrs. Brown, Shipley and Co. would not act upon this decision, but, with Captain Weiner, went to the Court of Appeal, and the appeal was thrown over until after the Long Vacation. Even after the Court of Appeal had confirmed the decision of the Court below, Messrs. Brown, Shipley and Co. were slow to honour their guarantee. That guarantee requires them to pay Mr. Northrop £50 on the first of each calendar month until May, 1911, when the agreement covered by the guarantee terminates. But Mr. Northrop had actually t put in the Sheriff because he had not received this month's payment by January 3rd!

THE CAMBRIAN RAILWAY COMPANY'S MEANNESS.

The Cambrian Railway Company seem to be in the way of saving just now. In order to economise, they have discharged their parcels boy at Brecon, to whom they were paying 8s. a week, and are compelling their passenger guards, after they have brought in their train, to deliver parcels in the town. It is surely a little strange to ask guards, who have been in the service of the company thirty-five years or more, to push a hand-cart round the town after they have finished their ordinary day's work, and it seems unjust not to pay them for the extra work.

PITY THE POOR EDITOR!

Can you give me the address of a good wardrobe dealer?

Which was the first electric tramway route in London? What year was it started?

Is it true that a bus driver who's bus does not pass Hyde Park Corner has received a brace of pheasants and shown the colours of Lord Rothchild at any time since the gift has been given?

How many Bills did the House of Lords reject or return for amendment during the last twenty-five years?

Which is the largest railway terminus?

In what year, and at what music hall, was the first moving picture show exhibited?

A STRANGE DECISION.

MR. BROS' JUSTICE.

We have had a visit from Mrs. Goff, of 274, St. John's Street, Clerkenwell. Mrs. Goff is a woman who has to get her own living by going out to work, and having young children she has been in the habit of employing a person named Elizabeth Endicott to look after them in her absence. Endicott was in Mrs. Goff's employment for ten days, when it was discovered that she had stolen a large quantity of articles, comprising sheets, pillow-cases, children's linen, etc., to the value of £4. Accordingly, Mrs. Goff charged her, and she came before Mr. Bros at the Clerkenwell Police Court. The prosecutrix put the case very plainly, and it was proved that the goods, or some of them, had been pawned by the woman Endicott, who indeed did not deny that she had stolen them. She said, in defence, that her husband was behind in his payments under a separation order, and she was behind with her rent. The husband now offered to take her back. Mr. Bros seemed to consider this a perfectly satisfactory explanation, and actually let her off upon her own recognizances as to good behaviour.

Was there ever such a travesty of justice? Mrs. Goff says that, although the promise was made that the things should be redeemed and restored to her, they have never been, so she has to put up with her loss, and the thief who took her goods is allowed to go scot free!

Accompanying Mrs. Goff was Mrs. Harvey, of Clerkenwell, and she tells us that this woman Endicott was employed by her to look after her children whilst Mrs. Harvey was out maternity nursing, and that here, too, she stole a number of things. Mrs. Harvey, in turn, charged her with theft, but when the case came on for hearing before Mr. Bros, and she began to describe the goods she had lost, the magistrate refused to allow her to proceed, and dismissed the charge.

Really these magistrates, or some of them, discharge their duties in a way that makes one wonder how they ever reached the position they so frequently abuse.

WHISTLING FOR WHIST DRIVE PRIZES.

MESSRS. ROBERTSON AND SMITH'S POLITE LETTER.

A few weeks ago, Messrs. Robertson and Smith announced a series of whist drives at the Holborn Hall, the winners of prizes to have vouchers entitling them to purchase at any tradesman's shop goods to the value thereon stated, Messrs. Robertson and Smith undertaking to honour such vouchers in due course.

A reader was awarded a ten shilling prize, and upon the tradesman's account for the selected goods being sent in, the following circular letter was received:—

44, Holloway Road, N.

Re Holborn Hall Whist Drives.

DEAR SIR OR MADAM,—It is with much regret we have to inform you that in consequence of insufficient support we are forced to discontinue the above whist drives.

We are also very sorry to advise you that should you have recently won a coupon which is still outstanding at one of our drives, we cannot at present hold out any hope whatever of it being met, and under the circumstances we beg your kind indulgence.

Should we at any time in future be in a position to meet same, we shall be most happy to do so.

Thanking you for past support,

We are, Dear Sir or Madam,

Yours respectfully,

ROBERTSON AND SMITH.

P.S.—Kindly note our present address.

Evidently, a good many persons have been left in the lurch, and we are sorry Messrs. Robertson and Smith take the matter so coolly, and do not express more determination to meet their honourable obligations. At any rate, we feel sure that their request to have their new address "noted" will not be overlooked.

"MRS. BULL."

PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY. PRICE ONE PENNY.

THE JUNIOR CLERK'S WAIL.

"PASSING RICH" ON FORTY-FIVE POUNDS A YEAR.

We have received the following complaint from one who signs himself "An Assistant Clerk." It refers to the wretched pay given by the State to a very useful body of men, and to the disheartening circumstances under which they do their work. It seems to us that there must be something wrong in a system whereby the State accepts the services of well-educated men, and employs them in responsible and exacting work, paying them £45 per ann. only, rising in course of years to a maximum of £150 per annum, without any future prospects:—

You are greatly to be thanked for the publicity you have given in a recent issue to the deplorable state of affairs now existent in the lower grades of the Civil Service. The Assistant Clerk class, a class greatly and steadily increasing throughout the Service, and especially in the very large overworked routine departments, is a class which should never have been created, which is (by virtue of its conditions of employment) a disgrace to its founders and a permanent blot upon the administration of every office which employs it.

The conditions are as stated. After two examinations and some years of good service as a boy clerk, the assistant clerk finds himself the possessor of a salary of £45, from which point he may proceed upwards by slow stages until, at the age of 34 or 35, he reaches the princely maximum of £150 per year. This remains his salary for the rest of his days.

Now mark. The class of men employed on these disgraceful terms is being more and more engaged upon work responsible and exacting. It is composed of educated men who must, in the nature of things, maintain a good appearance. They should marry, but, by the direct action of their employers, are forbidden so to do. And the Government is the model employer!

But worse remains. For every other class of Civil Servant there is the prospect of promotion. In the case of this unfortunate class this prospect is practically non-existent. If one of these men actually gets nominated for promotion (which is rare) he, and he alone among Civil Servants, is compelled to pass yet a third examination, and when that barrier is surmounted, he finds that his so-called promotion to a Second Division Clerkship brings with it for some years no financial advantage whatever. In fact (and this may seem incredible), in the case of most of the very few men who have reached promotion, the said promotion has been to them the occasion of severe monetary loss for many years past. This is the state of things which the Treasury contemptuously refuses to ameliorate.

The gratitude of all assistant clerks will go out to you if, by your outspoken comments, you are able to do anything to remedy the present state of deep distress and depression.

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

ROBINSON CARUSO, BACHELOR.

(*Caruso, in denying the rumour of his engagement, said, "I am a great singer because I have always remained a bachelor. No man sings unless he smiles, and I'd never smile if I married."*)

No laughing matter marriage is, 'tis said;
Caruso ventures to take heart of grace;
He'd sing another song if he were wed,
And smile—yes, on the wrong side of his face.

HORSES AS ACTORS.

(*Two hundred and fifty horses are being trained to "act" in a representation of Balaclava at the United Services Tournament.*)

The horse is used to drawing carts,
But now one's wrath it rouses,
To find they're teaching him to act—
The horse must now draw houses!

RICARDO.

"BASS, PLEASE."

We understand that the circular, warning the keepers of licensed premises against substitution, which we reproduced in our issue of January 14th, was not issued by Messrs. Bass, but by another firm of north-country brewers.

"CANADA'S DEATH-TRAP."

VIEWS OF VARIOUS CORRESPONDENTS.

We have received a further batch of letters from Canada protesting against some of the statements in the article, which we published under the above title in our issue of December 10th, and as we are most anxious that both sides shall be heard, and that any exaggeration the writer of the article, Mr. Louis Wain, may have shown shall be corrected, we give extracts from some of these letters.

An anonymous "Canadian" (Alberta) writes angrily and vulgarly. He says, "They evidently make any damn thing into an M.P. in England, void of any common intellect, born of a brainless mother that knew not what she bore. We fail to find men like yourself in the slums and prisons of Canada." We trust that is so.

"Cornishman" (Alberta) is also anonymous and angry. He says: "A young man coming into this country don't have to work for 4s. a day during the summer. Unskilled labourers in the North-west get from 20 to 25 cents per hour for ten hours a day."

On the other hand, "An Honest Home-trader" (Alberta) writes: "I have never before read anything as truthful as your statements. The Alberta Government is aware of the situation, but they are mean enough to encourage more out. As soon as they arrive, these hundreds, if they had the means, would go straightaway back. Those agents make believe in England that work, and places and money await them. The only things that await the new-comer in Alberta are land sharks and grafters, and most of them are in some way or other connected with the Alberta Government. King George will have a civil war on his hands if he allows this to go on much longer."

Mr. A. G. Graves, Commissioner of the City of Calgary, formerly of Louth, Lincolnshire, writes:—

> I wish to say that having lived in Canada for some fourteen years, and knowing the conditions in the West as I do, the article referred to is untrue and slanderous in its entirety, to which thousands of successful Englishmen in this country can testify.

Mr. Fred Whittaker, who describes himself as an "Official Auditor," of Calgary, is not less indignant. Having expressed the opinion that Mr. Louis Wain is "an unmitigated, malicious liar," Mr. Whittaker proceeds:—

> It is not very much use taking this article column by column, as it is one pack of lies from beginning to end. I have been in Alberta for the past six years, seeing both the country and the city side of the question, therefore being in a position to know whereof I speak. I would venture to say that I do not think there was *one* hungry person in this whole Western country this festive season, and I *know* that any young, able-bodied man with ambition, with money or without, has the best chances for a competence in Western Canada, in a shorter period, than he has in any part of the whole civilised world. A large percentage of the working men here own their homes. Do they in England? No, sir! They might work all their lives and have nothing. I know, I lived there until I was 21 years of age.

Mr. J. Laurance seems to be of a somewhat different opinion as to the labour market. He, too, writes from Calgary, and says:—

> A man with a decent capital is all right, but a man coming out with only a few pounds is very soon done in, as employment is very scarce and living and goods and rent VERY dear. A dollar here does not go further than 1s. in England. The best chances here are for mechanics such as experienced carpenters and bricklayers, the former 50, and the latter 75 cents per hour; very few of other trades are required.

And, finally, a brother chip, of the *Calgary Herald*, Mr. William H. Willson, formerly of Wolverhampton, says:—

> To all those who are dissatisfied with the prevailing conditions in the old country, and feel that they have the brains for something higher, yet their efforts to raise themselves are always met with the same disheartening and often ridiculing manner, I call to them to risk the price of their passage and come among the boys, who will ever be ready to extend the hand of friendship and welcome to those desiring of receiving it.
>
> Regarding the weather here in Calgary, we are experiencing a cold snap now, but a week will probably see weather such as one sees in the south of England, early in the summer. The coldest weather we had here in 1910, which lasted two days in January, the thermometer registered 35° below zero.

HUMAN DOCUMENT.—CXXVI.

A LITTLE BOY PLEADS FOR HIS MOTHER.

We publish below a letter from a little boy of eleven years of age, which speaks for itself. All that was left for us to do was to satisfy ourselves that it was really written by him, and that that which he states is the truth. We have made the necessary enquiries, and we are able to say that the boy is speaking nothing but the truth. Our representative went to Brixton, where the family are living, and interviewed the mother. He found that her husband deserted her in November last, going away with another woman. He is an electrician, and has been earning good money. The Guardians have issued a warrant for his arrest. The woman told our representative that in her extremity, her father-in-law, himself a man in humble circumstances, has lent her the use of one room, and here she lives with her four children. She and they are in abject poverty. She has done her utmost to get work without avail. She has a horror, as every good woman should have, whilst the workhouse means what it does mean at the present time in this country, of going into the union, and there is nothing she would not do within the bounds of possibility and law to keep out of it. If any of our readers, moved by the boy's tale, will lend a helping hand, we shall be delighted to put them into communication with this unhappy family and much-tried woman. At the present time their only sure income is the 2s. weekly earned by the boy.—

> DEAR SIR,—My mother has been advised to state her case to you, as my father has deserted her, and left her with four of us, of which I am the eldest, and I am 11 years old; my brother is 10, my sister is 6, and my other little baby brother is 1 year and 9 months. We have been in the workhouse, and she could not stay in, as she thinks it is the most dreadful place she has ever been in. Instead of treating us like human beings, we were treated just like pigs. My mother has walked all over the place trying to get work, but no, she can't get any. She is willing to work, but she said she would sooner starve than go in the workhouse. She has only my two shillings of a Saturday what I am earning on a milk-round every morning. We are nearly destitute. She is willing to let anyone call on us to prove that what I am writing is true. F. M.

We have received, and duly remitted, the following to the subjects of the "Human Documents" named:—

CXX.—"On the Square," 2s. 6d.
CXXI.—"On the Square," 2s. 6d.
CXXII.—"On the Square," 2s. 6d.
CXXIII.—"On the Square," 2s. 6d. By inadvertence the sum of 2s. 6d. from "Sympathiser," acknowledged in our last issue, should have been 5s.—which amount was duly forwarded.
CXXIV.—F. P., "The Old N.," C. J. S., "Woolwich," L. R. L., "Redland," M., "Winter," "Troddles," Mrs. L., "Florrie," F. C. (Hoxton), "Ethel G.," M. S. (Cardiff); Mrs. T. S. (Littleport), Mrs. J. F. H., Mrs. W.—parcels of clothing, etc.; "Horace," 5s.; E. R., 2s. 6d.; O. E. D., 1s.; "Postie," 6d.; S., 5s.; "Brum," 5s. 6d.; "Sympathy," 2s.; "Hilda," 1s.; M. E. A., 2s. 6d.; N., 1s.; "Mabgeru," 5s.; "CXXIV.," 2s. 6d.; A. W., 2s.; M. H., 2s.; "In His Name," 20s.; "Colossus," 2s. 6d.; E. C., 2s.; "Jack Spratt," 8s. 6d.; "Troddles," 2s. 6d.; H. H. S. E., 10s.; "155331," 2s. 6d.; "Silverdale," 2s. 6d.; "Nil Desperandum," 6s.; L. C. B., 1s.; R. M., 5s.; D. and G., 1s.; W. G. F., 5s.; B. B., 2s. 6d.; "Winter," 3s.; "Mother of Eight," 6s.; "Suffragette," 5s.; "Guard," 2s. 6d.; F. J. W., 20s.; "The Old N," 2s.; "Bass," 2s. 6d.; R. C., 1s.; N. S., 2s.

BIRTHDAY OF THE WEEK.

"JOHN BULL'S" GREETINGS.

January 26th.—THE BISHOP OF LONDON.

A bishop after all's a man,
Built on the good old human plan;
Though crook and mitre he may bear,
Old Adam's attributes are there;
He eats, drinks, breathes, and sleeps the same
As simple men unknown to fame;
He's subject, just the same as I,
To physical infirmity;
And, at the end, he sinks to rest
With the indifferent, bad, and best.
But, if he plays a manly part,
And keeps a charitable heart,
He'll stand *as good* a chance of bliss
As those without a diocese.

LOSS OF THE "WARATAH."

SOME POINTS FOR THE COURT.

We have received the following very suggestive letter from a correspondent who is entitled to speak with authority on the questions he touches upon. We earnestly invite the attention of the Court of Enquiry now sitting to this letter:—

Amongst all the evidence which has been brought forward in the enquiry *re* the loss of the *Waratah*, the all-important question of stowage of cargo seems to have been left very much in the background. Some few years ago I was in the same trade as the ill-fated ship and loaded by the same company. These ships commence loading in Brisbane, then proceed to Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide. In the two former ports the usual cargo loaded is wool; in the two latter wool, concentrates, pigs of lead and a greater or less number of cases of "general." Sometimes the heavy concentrates are sent round to Sydney by coasting steamer, sometimes not. The modern method of loading steamers is to keep *all hatches* working in all ports, so as to ensure quick despatch, and for the same reason you must take the cargo *as you get it* delivered on the wharf. It is obvious that, where heavy cargo arrives last, this method must frequently mean the sacrifice of stability, owing to the ship's centre of gravity being brought so high. Given a naturally tender ship, and a badly stowed cargo, the result may be disastrous.

Nowadays, although the law holds the master responsible, stowage is taken out of the ship's officers' hands. A stevedore is appointed, usually an experienced and capable man, but who has *got* to get the ship away to schedule time, no matter how the cargo is chucked into her.

In sixteen years' experience afloat I have frequently heard officers complain about the stowage, but if you open your mouth too wide another man can easily be found to take your place. So nothing is said, and Jack, being a happy-go-lucky soul, pushes his old tub off and hopes to Heaven he does not get into a bad breeze of wind. In the old wind-jammer days it took us three weeks and more to load a cargo of two to four thousand tons, now we work twenty thousand out and in five or six days.

Her coaling at Durban would bring the *Waratah's* centre of gravity still higher. She left and ran into a heavy westerly gale. Vessels bound round the African coast to the S.W. always keep well out in the full strength of the Agulhas current, which varies from one to four knots an hour. If anything happened to her steering gear which necessitated stopping, she would then fall off into the trough, and with the westerly gale on one side and the strong current underneath running in the opposite direction, would be placed in a position of great danger to an already cranky ship. A well-known Glasgow sailing-ship capsized in Mission Bay, San Francisco, some sixteen years ago (although she was in smooth water), owing to similar circumstances of wind and tide.

Be it understood that I make no accusation against the owners or anyone of carelessness, or neglect in any way. I only wish to give a possible explanation of the vessel's disappearance. The views I have expressed are those of a plain and practical seaman, who lays no claim to be an expert on naval architecture. There is too much hurry nowadays for cargo to be properly stowed. The evidence of passengers or seafaring men who saw the vessel at sea can be of little value. I see one witness suggested it would have been possible to jettison the coal from the shelter deck. I don't think he can have been in any vessels of that class or he would not talk thus. It would take days, let alone hours. The *Waratah* seems to have had the beastly slow lurch of a cranky ship, not the heavy roll of one with a low centre of gravity.

I hope the foregoing may prove of some interest to you, as being the practical experience of one who has been mate of both sail and steam ship. For obvious reasons you will suppress my name. I enclose my card.

A WONDERFUL NEW SERIAL STORY

"SEKHET."

By an entirely unknown author, will commence in

"MRS. BULL,"

in the Issue for week ending Feb. 11th.
Published on Tuesday, Feb. 7th.

Before many chapters of this remarkable story have been published, all England will be asking, "Who is the Author?" and every Theatrical Manager will be clamouring for the dramatic rights.

"Sekhet" was an Egyptian Goddess—of "Love and Cruelty." She is depicted as a woman with a Cat's Head, and a statue of her may be seen in the British Museum.

ORDER "MRS. BULL" AT ONCE.

AN APPARENTLY UNDUE PREFERENCE.

THE CORONATION PROCESSION THROUGH PARLIAMENT STREET—A SUGGESTION.

A peculiar point regarding the Coronation proceedings is that the procession is to pass along Parliament Street no less than three times—although many petitions that they should be included in the route have been presented from ratepayers occupying other thoroughfares equally accessible to the Abbey.

We wonder whether this apparently undue preference on the part of those having the ceremony in hand is caused by the fact that Parliament Street is full of public offices, the occupiers of which, though they pay no rent or rates, enjoy gratuitously the privilege of a good—in this instance unexampled—view of almost all the important State functions?

In the peculiar circumstances, as these highly desirable positions are public property, should not the seats be let in the open market? They would command a figure which would be of material help to the taxpayers in footing the bill for the proceedings.

A similar remark applies to the stands which are usually erected on public ground and let to Civil Servants at a price which is often under the actual charge of the builders.

As the various offices will be closed, the admission of the public to the windows would not, of course, interfere in any way with the working of the Departments.

THE RELIABILITY OF PRISONERS' STATEMENTS.

Messrs. Joseph Walker and Co. (Banbridge)—apropos of the paragraph in our issue of December 31st in reference to the charge against a man (who alleged that he had been in their employ at 7s. a week and had been "driven to steal to make ends meet")—write us that the man was never in their service, as he stated at the Belfast Police Court, but that they pitied and tried to help him in a charitable way, his action, therefore, being a case of base ingratitude. We are glad to have this confirmation of the opinion we expressed upon the case—namely, that it is never safe to accept implicitly the extenuating stories told by prisoners.

A PARTY HACK AM I.

SONG.

A Party hack am I;
Contented with my lot,
I tramp the lobbies "No" and "Aye"
And never think a jot!
The Whip, I do obey him,
Whatever he commands,
I leave my independence
Entirely in his hands.

Chorus:

Oh, a Party hack
Must call white black—
If the Whip says so,
Well, it *is*, you know!
And so say I
Let the world go by,
A Party hack
I'll live and die!

A Party hack am I,
And though I wisely blink,
My leaders know it's only show
And that I never think.
I take their orders blindly,
As politicians should,
And if they treat me kindly
For a peerage I am "good"!

Chorus:

Oh, a Party hack
Like a duck should quack
And walk in file
In approved duck style—
And thus do I,
While the world goes by;
For, a Party hack
I'll live and die!

W. M.

THE CAXTON BALZAC.

THE ONLY COMPLETE AND UNEXPURGATED EDITION EVER ISSUED IN ENGLAND.

A Remarkable Publishing Enterprise.

No fact in the literary history of the time is more encouraging to those who are interested in the development of sound literary taste than the steady progress of the fame of Balzac during the past few years. With the celebration of the Balzac Centenary there began one of those strange literary awakenings for which it is not easy to account. English readers became anxious to read Balzac. But the demand was for the complete text, for a just translation that should give the works of the Author as they were written, in all their integrity and without gloss, change, or expurgation.

Balzac saw all Life, all Character, and all happenings simply as raw material to be manufactured into stories. He studied humanity and the machinery of society in a scientific spirit, and was himself at once a realist and a visionary.

Balzac never idealised; he drew men and women as they are. And so his novels are meat for the strong, and they make their special and distinct appeal to the sincere soul.

An Unexpurgated Edition.

The issue in English of the only complete and unexpurgated edition of the works of Balzac by the Caxton Publishing Company is, therefore, an event the importance of which will be fully understood by the book-buyer who has knowledge of book values.

Type, binding and paper have all been specially chosen in a style befitting the definitive edition of a standard author.

But it is the fact that this is the only complete and unexpurgated edition issued in English that the publishers naturally desire to emphasise.

These beautiful volumes include the eighty-five novels Honoré de Balzac wrote in his twenty active working years.

The Comedy of Life.

The marvellous "Comédie Humaine," in which Balzac incorporated so many of his stories when he had been writing already ten years, is a series the plan of which has no parallel in the History of Fiction.

Its sub-divisions were continually altered, re-arranged, and added to by Balzac himself up to the time of his death. The "Human Comedy"—or "The Comedy of Life"—consists of stories of

Private Life,	Political Life,
Provincial Life	Military Life,
Parisian Life,	Country Life,

all connected by the fine web of a narrative that has the Paris of the Restoration for its centre.

These were ultimately classified by M. Michel Lévy, the Publisher of the Paris "Edition Définitive," according to the author's final intentions.

In this wonderful series of profound studies, each one of over three hundred characters stands out with lifelike fidelity. All sorts and conditions of men and women—fops, noblemen, scholars, philosophers, duchesses, thieves, beggars, rakes, courtesans, shopkeepers, artists, priests, appear and reappear, each acting as such a character would act through the shifting phases and varying stages of "that perennial battle which we call Life."

The "Droll Stories" of Balzac stand alone. They are a remarkable series in which he reproduces with masterly design and Rabelaisian humour the France of the sixteenth century. All are included here.

Balzac's Psychological Value.

The Rev. Arthur J. Jenkins, Lecturer of Psychology, Presbyterian Church of Ireland, Belfast, writes, October 12th, 1909:—

"Please find herewith application form for a set of Balzac's works duly filled up. He is coming into his own place at last, and while I have a number of his works in various bindings, the opportunity offered by you of a completed unexpurgated edition of his works is too good to be lightly laid aside. His works are invaluable to the psychological student, for his insight into human motives and elemental passions, and his introspective studies are incomparable."

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This edition is exquisitely illustrated by great French artists, whose names are a sufficient guarantee of their ability to embody the very spirit of the author. The fact that the originals of these fine pictures were exhibited in the Salon is in itself sufficient proof of their excellence.

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"Truth" says:

"I can testify not only to the excellence of the translation, but also to the charm of the type, binding, paper and especially of the exquisite illustrations by famous French artists. Considered in every light I am unable to conceive a more satisfactory edition of the great novelist's work."

A FREE BOOKLET.

We have prepared a charming detailed prospectus containing interesting information about Balzac, his life, and his work, which will be sent post free to those who apply for it. It contains a full list of everything Balzac wrote and its arrangement in these volumes. It will also tell you all about this Caxton edition—the only complete and unexpurgated edition ever issued in English—and of the very easy terms on which it is supplied.

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Please send me, free of charge, and without any obligation on my part:

Detailed prospectus of "THE CAXTON EDITION OF BALZAC," with terms of easy payments.

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THE REFERENDUM.

A CRITICISM—AND A REPLY.

By "A PRACTICAL POLITICIAN."

The article on the Referendum in your issue of the 17th ult. has, I should think, been read with interest by all your readers, but I shall be surprised if the majority agree with your contributor. The adverse criticisms quoted by him only touch the fringe of the subject, and I should like his opinion on the question as it appears to the ordinary man in the street.

In theory, the idea of the Referendum is most attractive. It is democratic government in its highest form—a realization of the catch phrase "by the people for the people." No more will complaints be heard of the inadequate representation of large constituencies. The "voice of the people" will decide "constitutional . . . and important questions." It has a fine sound, hasn't it?

Now the average elector knows very little about the Constitution, and, except at election time, cares less. His knowledge of history, gained at the elementary schools, is for all practical purposes, worthless, and he has had no time since to acquire an understanding even of what is meant by "the Constitution." It is quite safe to say that three-fourths of the "free and independent," if left to themselves, would be unable to form an opinion as to the wisdom or otherwise of any change in the Constitution.

Almost the same might be said concerning any "important question." What proportion of the voting strength of the country has any idea of the effect of the passing of, say, Tariff Reform? How many of the intelligent electors know the meaning of Free Trade as it exists in Great Britain to-day? It is surprising how very ignorant the rank-and-file of the two great Parties are—how little they understand the meaning of the well-sounding words and catch phrases which roll off their tongues at election time.

I said just now "if left to themselves." That is the gist of the matter. The electors are not left to themselves. Ready-made opinions are provided for them. The average voter is blindly partisan. He is brought up in a blue or yellow atmosphere, and thinks in one of those two colours at a tender age. As he grows older he joins a political club, makes friends of a hue similar to his own, reads his halfpenny "daily"—and votes accordingly.

The Referendum would not differ materially from an ordinary election. The decision to refer a "constitutional or important question" to the people would be the signal for each constituency to be flooded with literature, for and against. Blue and yellow orators would orate, the halfpenny press would go into the usual hysterics, and—the "people" would decide in accordance with the instructions received.

I can imagine the Referendum being of practical use only under the following conditions:—

1. If the principle involved by the "constitutional or important question" were plainly set before the electorate, and not hidden in the complicated sections and clauses of a parliamentary bill.

2. If a daily JOHN BULL were published for a halfpenny, so that voters could get the plain truth about things, and not the garbled version served up by the Party dailies.

But—if these conditions were fulfilled, there would be no need for the Referendum.

Our contributor, who has seen the above, replies as follows:—

1. Admitting the ignorance of the electorate, they are as competent to give a vote on the subject that would be submitted to them upon Referendum as on the many subjects submitted to them at a General Election.

2. The question would be "plainly set before the electorate," seeing that it would have been fully discussed in the two Houses of Parliament.

3. The "garbled version served up by the dailies" applies to every Bill of a Party character. It is not suggested that the Referendum should be resorted to except upon questions of grave moment, upon which there has been ample discussion.

"MRS. BULL."

PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY. PRICE ONE PENNY.

POTTED POLITICAL PANTOS.

By "RETLAW."

TOO MANY COOKS; OR, THE REAL LEADER.

SCENE; *The Tory Platform.*

Enter MR. BALFOUR.

Full in the limelight of the public eye,
How noble is the post I occupy!
Head of the Tory faction here I stand,
With myriad followers throughout the land.
In all that I propose they acquiesce,
Though now and then I land them in a mess,
Whene'er I change my views—which oft I do—
My willing slaves change their opinions too!
Like foolish sheep they follow in my track,
And, at my bidding, say that white is black.
To wield such power is really gratifying,
Though the responsibility is trying.

Enter JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN.

Arthur, you know as well as I,
The leader of the Tories
Sits in my room at Highbury—
So don't go telling stories.
Your leadership is nominal—
You are a puppet, that is all.

Our tactics emanate from me,
They have no other source, sir,
And any change of policy
With ease I can enforce, sir;
Although I've not been seen of late;
Still to the Caucus I dictate.

MR. BALFOUR.

Good gracious, Joseph, how you startled me!
Which way did you come in? I didn't see.
You look quite cross. Perhaps you overheard
My little joke? *I didn't mean a word.*
You are the leader; that I know quite well;
And trust you'll be so for a lengthy spell.

Enter AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN:

Who talks of leadership? You can't deny
That if our Party has one, it is I.
Arthur may bear the name, but, none the less,
That I'm the actual boss you must confess.

Enter LORD LANSDOWNE.

Our leader, I would have you know,
At Lansdowne House resides,
And that is *I*, who dealt the blow
That Lloyd George now derides;
I his first Budget smashed, you will remember,
October twelvemonth—or was it September?

Enter BONAR LAW.

What's all this talk of leadership?
I have a shrewd suspicion
(Though Manchester from me did slip)
That *I* hold that position.
No more tarrific tar'iffer
Exists than I, I do aver!

MR. BALFOUR:

Claim it who may, the fact remains, you know,
That I, Arthur J. Balfour, boss the show.

JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN:

Apparently: but who will dare deny
That really it is I?

AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN:

No;—I!

LORD LANSDOWNE *and* BONAR LAW:

No;—I!

Enter MR. J. L. GARVIN.

Arthur and Joseph, Austen, Bonar Law;
And you, Lord Lansdowne, look on me with awe!
In me behold—you know it well enough—
The man who holds you all fast by the scruff.
I am the sole dictator of your crew,
For what I tell you, that you have to do.
Squabble no longer, stop this noisy spar;
And say, Am I your leader?

ALL:

Yes, you are!

[CURTAIN.]

"John Bull" on Medical Testimony.

Readers of this paper know that anything it supports is to be relied upon. Thousands of doctors and nurses have testified to the marvellous restorative properties of Hall's Wine. As medical etiquette forbids the publication of professional names in advertisements, "John Bull" has acted for its readers—the following and hundreds of other doctors' and nurses' testimonials have been inspected and are guaranteed genuine and unsolicited by "John Bull."

No. 811.
"I have been suffering from Sleeplessness and took Hall's Wine with most satisfactory results. I am now prescribing it both for Sleeplessness, and as a pick-me-up."

No. 758.
"A great number of times, for several years past, I have recommended Hall's Wine to my patients, and I can remember no case which it failed to benefit."

No. 755.
"I have had most excellent results in prescribing Hall's Wine. It is especially valuable in Debility following Influenza."

No. 864.
"After a severe attack of Depression and Weakness following hard work, I have benefited very much by the use of Hall's Wine, and I have also received immediate relief from Neuralgia. I consider Hall's Wine is excellent."

No. 762.
"I consider Hall's Wine to be the best Restorative on the market, and most useful in cases of insomnia."

No. 856.
"For Neuralgia, Colds, Weakness following Influenza, Hall's Wine can be safely recommended. In my own case, its action has been simply marvellous."

No. 857.
"In cases of Neuralgia I know of nothing that acts so rapidly as Hall's Wine, and since taking it I have improved in every way."

No. 825.
"I am attending a patient who has been prescribed Hall's Wine after a serious illness, and her recovery is simply marvellous. I took three bottles myself, after Influenza, and it did me more good than anything else I had ever tried."

No. 837.
"I can, without hesitation, recommend Hall's Wine to anyone suffering from Insomnia, Anæmia or Nervous Disorders, and as a restorative after illness, I do not know its equal. I speak from practical experience and observation."

No. 845.
"I have taken Hall's Wine myself for some time past, and have no hesitation in saying it is a most Marvellous Pick-me-up. In fact I have never had anything that has restored me so quickly. When on night duty, one gets awfully run down, and your Wine puts new life into me."

No. 819.
"For some time I have been suffering from Insomnia and Dyspepsia. After taking one bottle of Hall's Wine the Insomnia entirely disappeared, and subsequently it cured my Dyspepsia. I shall always recommend it."

No. 770.
"Some years ago I took a bottle of Hall's Wine myself, when I was run down, and found great benefit from it. Since then members of my family have taken it with most satisfactory results, and I have seen good effects with my patients."

No. 841.
"I had been suffering for months from Dyspepsia and Anæmia, and eventually should have had to give up my profession. But I took Hall's Wine and it has proved a most valuable and recuperative agent. I have no hesitation in recommending it to fellow nurses under similar circumstances."

No. 759.
"I am frequently prescribing Hall's Wine, and in every case where I have done so, with excellent results."

No. 820.
"I had been up for practically a fortnight with a patient, and had assisted at a very serious operation the day before. I have felt almost in despair from over-work and nerve strain. As I had to attend an operation the following morning, I thought, having seen the effect of Hall's Wine in some of my own cases, I would try it. I took one glass, lying down immediately afterwards. In half-an-hour I felt a new creature. The feeling of extreme exhaustion had left me, also the pain in my back, and I was able to go on with my duties. In cases where there is difficulty in sleeping Hall's Wine is invaluable, and I cannot speak too highly of it."

No. 769.
"I have known your Hall's Wine for many years, and have often received benefit from it myself."

No. 833.
"I have tried Hall's Wine for Neuralgia, which I suffered from a great deal. I find it gives almost immediate relief, and is a perfect godsend to me, and a patient I am now attending, who was in a collapsed condition after Diphtheria, is taking your Wine with most beneficial results."

No. 751.
"I have had practical proof of the good obtained from Hall's Wine, and always advise it when opportunity offers.

No. 768.
"I have used Hall's Wine myself for many years and frequently recommend it as a Restorative and Tonic, where a reliable Tonic is required."

No. 767.
"I continually prescribe Hall's Wine as a Restorative and Pick-me-up. In fact, I take it a great deal myself."

No. 760.
"I have prescribed Hall's Wine on many occasions, and find it of great value in cases of Anæmia."

No. 810.
"After prolonged convalescence following a serious operation, I went through a course of Hall's Wine myself from which I derived so much benefit that I have since prescribed it in every similar case, with gratifying results. Although I am back at my work again I continue to take Hall's Wine, as I find it an excellent Soporific (night-cap). It gives me great pleasure to add my name to the list of medicals of long practice who value your invigorating wine."

No. 772.
"I have prescribed Hall's Wine in my practice for many years past, with most excellent results. I have several poor patients who I should like to take the Wine, but they are quite unable to purchase it. Would your firm be prepared to give a few bottles in really deserving cases?"

No. 776.
"I have found Hall's Wine very useful for several years, in many cases. I usually keep a bottle in the Surgery."

No. 815.
"I consider Hall's Wine a most magnificent restorative, especially for weakness following Influenza. I have seen patients who seem to recover after taking the first glass. There is no doubt Hall's Wine is the best thing for weakness following illness of any description."

No. 830.
"I have great pleasure in testifying to the great benefit I have derived from taking Hall's Wine. It is a splendid Nerve Tonic, and if taken at night, as prescribed, induces sleep. I have great faith in it as a restorative after illness. I have seen some very rapid recoveries through it."

Hall's Wine is remarkable for the rapidity with which it restores both the physical and mental powers. Its action in Neuralgia and Sleeplessness is frequently immediate. As a restorative and pick-me-up it is described, in the letters we publish, as truly marvellous. After Influenza or any illness there is nothing in the world like Hall's Wine to bring back perfect health.

MESSAGES FROM THE MEDITERRANEAN.

UNAUTHORISED PEEPS INTO AN IMAGINARY POST-BAG.

BY RICHARD MORTON.

The Eminent Statesman, freed for a time from the stress and turmoil of political strife, had sought and found rest and retirement in the Sunny South. The only fly in the ointment was that people *would* write to him, and there were some people to whom he must reply. He wondered why fellows would not let him alone when they must know very well that he wanted to be let alone, but the distressing fact was that they wouldn't. So he left off humming his favourite air, "By the Shores of the Mediterranean, blue, blue, blue!" and told the waiter to bring into a cosy corner under the verandah some paper and envelopes, pen and ink, cigarettes, and his secretary.

Thus equipped, he sidled his lengthy way into a lounge chair, sent a curl of fragrant smoke towards the roof, and dictated as follows:—

To Mr. Austen Chamberlain, Birmingham. (*Aside to Secretary*): "I don't like that word, but I hope you can spell it. I can't."

"My Dear Austen,—Who am I, that I should venture to criticise the vocabulary you choose to employ in a correspondence that is always so welcome to me? Therefore I will not do so, but I must say that I shuddered when you applied the epithet 'bloomer' to my artful move with the Referendum. Really, you know, to call it 'a bloomer' is rather—well, now, isn't it?

"I cannot even now admit that I made a tactical error. My design was to win the election—to sweep the country is, I think, the correct phrase, and when the idea was suggested to me by a mutual friend, I thought there was something in it. And I am of the same opinion still. I am quite sure there is something in it. But I don't know what it is. That, however, is of no consequence.

"I see you say Tariff Reform must be carried, with or without the Referendum. You know I always approach the question with an Open Mind—or should it be an Open Door? I get so mixed up in these catch phrases!—and, if such is your wish, I hope you may get it.

"It is very balmy here."

To Mr. Bonar Law, Manchester. (If gone from this address, please return to sender.)

"My Dear Law,—How you must regret the pleasant groves of verdant Dulwich, where you were so snug and cosy and comfy., as this leaves me at present. It certainly was a shame to send you to Manchester, and a grievous administrative error, for which somebody shall be called over the coals when I get back, if I feel up to it. I understand I have appointed a Committee to enquire into some of these matters.

"By the way, you must pick out some nice, safe constituency in view of the next General Election, when it comes. There must be no mistake next time, for, if we win, we shall want you at the Board of Trade. We really must have one man who knows something.

"Try and think of some safe seat, and I'll see that you have a run. I wonder if Banbury would——?"

To Mr. F. E. Smith, Royal Courts of Justice.

"My Dear Effffee,—I suppose you are reserving your choicest efforts for the Courts just now, as I seem to miss your brilliant periods in the papers.

"You did pile it on. Whenever I felt languid and in need of a tonic or stimulant—a pick-me-up I suppose you would call it, or a livener?—I only had to read your latest.

"Perhaps it is best for us both to keep quiet for a while. That is what I am doing. It suits me.

"I hope you are equally content to rest on your laurels—but I have my philosophic doubts about it!"

To Mr. Garvin, Jobserver Office, London:—"Sir; No, thank you. No more tips, *if* you please. The last one was quite enough to go on with. Look where it has landed me!"

To Mr. Walter Long (*care of his Auctioneers, somewhere in Wiltshire*):—"My Dear Long,—I hear I have appointed a Commission to enquire into the working of the Party machinery. Find out if I have done this, and, if I have, send me all particulars!"

Then again, humming "By the Shores of the Mediterranean, blue, blue, blue!" the Eminent Statesman signified to his secretary, "That will be all to-day, thank you."

THE HEADMASTER'S CIRCULAR, AND WHAT CAME OF IT.

BY A HARROW BOY'S INDIGNANT MOTHER.

I will therefore ask you to arrange with your medical adviser to have a "swab" taken of your boy's throat, and by him submitted to a bacteriological institute to be examined, and the bacteriologist's certificate may be forwarded to me to reach your boy's House Master THREE DAYS AT LEAST *before the school reassembles on January 25th.*

(Extract from the Head Master of Harrow's circular dated January 2nd, 1911.)

The Headmaster of Harrow sat in his study and wore a worried look. It was a few days before the assembling of the school, but it was neither tutorial nor ordinary governmental cares which furrowed his brow. The origin of all his trouble was simply a—microbe. He had fought this ubiquitous thing all through the latter part of last term and it had been persistent, and when he had broken up the school earlier in consequence, it rather seemed it had been left conqueror of the field. So he called in a great man named Plimpson, with half the alphabet tacked on to his name. He delivered his edict. The diphtheria germ, he explained, has a playful habit of disporting itself in your throat even though you have nothing the matter with you, and it may infect other people who may immediately develop the disease.

A circular had therefore been issued, and the swabbing began all over the country. It sounds an uncomfortable process, and suggests a housemaid raking out corners with her broom, and this is in fact exactly what it feels like. Well, six hundred boys had been swabbed and made sick, and all the servants at Harrow had followed suit, and the masters with their wives and families. (Mr. Ford felt as if his throat had been torn with the garden hoe, and the twins wondered why they should be swabbed so soon after their appearance in this mortal vale). And now you would have thought all would have been well. But the germ specialist had forgotten one trifling fact, viz., that a great many other microbes have acquired the same curious and unsatisfactory habits as the diphtheria gentleman. And this it was which was raising dust in the Headmaster's study this January morn. When the curtain rises on him he is reading a letter—the two hundred and fortieth that day. It runs thus:—

> DEAR MR. FORD,—According to your request, I had the throats of my two boys carefully swabbed, and have just received the report from the Bacteriological Institute. They state that the diphtheria germ is absent" (It sounds as if it had gone on a holiday, thought Mr. Ford), "but to my horror and alarm they inform me that they have found the bacillus of malignant typhoid in Algernon, and scarlet fever in Tom. What am I to do? They both seem perfectly well, and have their usual healthy appetites, but I could not of course send them back to infect their schoolfellows. I have heard of an institution where they keep the air sprayed with a Chinese Stink Ball, and this seems the only safe place for them to go to.—Yours etc., etc.

As Mr. Ford laid down this epistle, the telephone bell on his desk rang furiously. He put it to his harassed ear, and an angry female voice demanded to speak with the Headmaster, if he were still alive. That gentleman was proceeding to say that he was not sure if he was, when the lady recognising his voice, impatiently interrupted.

"My boy's throat has been examined, Mr. Ford, and the result is a most terrifying report."

"Yes?" said the poor Headmaster "Is it diphtheria?"

"No," said the voice ominously, "it is something far worse—it is the plague!"

"Oh," said Mr. Ford mildly, as though he would say, "That's nothing!" His reception of the news lashed the lady to fury.

"I don't think you can possibly understand," she raved. "It is the plague—harmonic plague. My husband has gone to see his solicitor and place the matter in——"

The Headmaster cut off the telephone, and dropped his head on to his hands. The door opened, and Mrs. Ford glided in, carrying a swabbed twin on each arm.

"Got all the certificates, dear? Everything satisfactory, I hope?"

"Oh, very," replied he, with a bitter laugh. "I think there are three boys coming back, and we have twenty-nine actions for damages impending.

"HARLENE HAIR-DRILL"

Great Coronation Offer.

A Crown for every British Subject Free

Mr. Edwards, the well-known inventor of the hair specific of Kings and Queens, marks the Coronation Year of King George and Queen Mary with the remarkable offer of a crown of fine, free-growing, lustrous hair, regardless of its present condition, no matter whether it be thin, falling, greasy, dry or quite impoverished, in addition to a

£500 PRIZE COMPETITION.

This is the great Coronation offer made by the world-famous hair specialist, Mr. Edwards, of "Harlene Hair-Drill" fame.

No matter what the present condition of your hair may be, no matter how thin or weak, or how worried you may be with scalp trouble such as scurf, dandruff, greasiness, &c., this promise of a crown is made to you.

Every person who desires to acquire the personal crown has only to fill in and forward as directed the free gift coupon below to receive in return a full supply of the necessary preparations for the cultivation of hair growth. Not only will a supply of "Harlene" be sent, but also a box of the delightful shampoo powder "Cremex" for the cleansing of the head. There will also be sent an interesting manual of instructions on the "Harlene Hair-Drill" method.

This is the Coronation Year Gift made by the proprietor of the world-famous specific, "Harlene," and the inventor of "Harlene Hair-Drill."

Is it not more than sufficient to induce you to begin at once to cultivate a new growth of hair by securing the necessary preparations now offered gratis?

There is certainly need for improvement in the hair in nine cases out of every ten, and yet this essential feature of attractive masculine appearance and womanly beauty is generally the most neglected.

One has only to examine the tell-tale brush or comb to realise that hair trouble has set in. Those few hairs in the teeth of the comb and in the meshes of the brush prove conclusively that the hair is beginning to thin, and needs immediate attention.

Neglect now may for ever rob you of your opportunity of possessing a crown of rich, free-growing, healthy hair.

The "Harlene Hair-Drill" method will and does grow hair. Not only does it grow hair on those places from whence it has fallen, but it strengthens the remaining hair, and by systematic application will turn dull, fading locks to their natural fresh, full-coloured condition.

The use of the "Cremex" Shampoo Powder will keep the hair free from germ-laden dust, and prepares the scalp for the practice of "Harlene Hair-Drill."

How often do we see women who have an abundance of hair with the same lying in lank, lifeless coils upon the head! "Harlene Hair-Drill," practised for a few days, would electrify that hair and make it once more a shining crown of glory.

Your hair now may be extremely thin; it may be lifeless or quite impoverished; you may have such troubles as scurf, dandruff, and stand in dread of approaching baldness. If this is so, you will find in "Harlene" the means of re-growing strong, healthy, vigorous hair—the means of gaining a crown of which age will not rob you.

The gifts that the inventor of "Harlene Hair-Drill" makes in order to assist you to secure your crown are:

1. A special supply of the world-famous hair-grower and scalp tonic, "Harlene," the preparation that does actually grow hair in splendidly abundant masses.
2. A supply of "Cremex," a delightful shampoo powder, the use of which clears the hair of all loose scurfy matter, dandruff, dust, dirt, &c., and prepares the scalp for the practice of "Harlene Hair-Drill."
3. An interesting book which tells you just what to do in order to grow strong, healthy hair. This book is of the utmost interest, for no matter what your particular hair trouble may be, the method of ridding yourself of the same is clearly indicated.

It is sufficient, in order to secure this gift, to fill in the coupon given below and to post to the address indicated. With each application must be enclosed three penny stamps to cover the actual cost of postage on the parcel.

For the convenience of readers, it may be mentioned that further supplies of "Harlene" are obtainable of all chemists and stores in bottles at 1s., 2s. 6d., and 4s. 6d., and "Cremex" Shampoo Powders, in boxes of six, at 1s. per box, or direct from the proprietors on receipt of P.O. addressed to the Edwards' Harlene Co.

FREE TRIAL OUTFIT COUPON

JOHN BULL, Jan. 28.

To EDWARDS' HARLENE CO.,
95-96, High Holborn, London, W.C.

Dear Sirs,—Having read your article, I would like to accept your offer to send me a Free Outfit for "Hair-Drill," including a bottle of "Harlene," a packet of "Cremex" Shampoo Powder, and a copy of your "Hair-Drill" Instruction Book on the care and culture of the Hair.

I enclose 3d. in stamps to cover the cost of postage on package to my address in any part of the world.

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

In addition to this remarkable gift offer, Mr. Edwards to further stimulate pride in what has already been recognised as the great trait of English beauty—a fine head of hair—has decided to inaugurate a

£500 PRIZE COMPETITION.

Every user of "Harlene" is eligible.

The competition is of the most simple nature, and one in which every person—man, woman, or child—can easily enter.

1st Grand Prize, £50 in cash, to the lady who is judged to have the finest head of hair.

1st Grand Prize, £50 in Cash, to the gentleman who is judged to have the finest head of hair.

1st Grand Prize, £25 in Cash, to the little girl, not exceeding the age of ten years, who is judged to have the best head of hair.

1st Grand Prize, £25 in Cash, to the boy, not exceeding the age of ten years, who is considered to have the best head of hair.

The remainder of the Cash Prizes will be awarded as follows:—

LADIES' SECTION.

2nd Prize of £25 to that lady judged to possess the second best head of hair.

20 Prizes of £1 each to those ladies whose hair is judged to be the next best.

200 Consolation Prizes of 10s. each to the 200 next best.

GENTLEMEN'S SECTION.

2nd Prize of £25 to that gentleman judged to possess the second best head of hair.

There will also be **20 Prizes of £1 each** to the gentlemen whose hair is judged to be the next best.

200 Consolation Prizes of 10s. each to the 200 next best.

CHILDREN'S SECTION.

2nd Prize of £10 each to the boy and girl respectively whose hair is judged to be second best in their particular class.

There will also be **10 Prizes of £1 each** for girls, and **10 Prizes of £1 each** for boys.

Also **20 Consolation Prizes of 10s. each** to girls, and **20 Consolation Prizes of 10s. each** to boys.

These Prizes will be awarded to the boys and girls placed next in order of merit.

THE SIMPLE CONDITIONS OF ENTRY.

1st.—If you are not already a user of "Harlene" you should at once send for the triple gift of "Harlene Hair-Drill" Outfit, which will be sent you free of cost.

2nd.—Each person entering the Competition must send to the Edwards' Harlene Co. a photograph in which a good view of the hair is clearly given. This photograph will be judged by a Committee.

3rd.—It is necessary that each competitor shall be a user of "Harlene," and therefore shall send a wrapper from any bottle of "Harlene" which has been used by the competitor—a 1s., 2s. 6d., or 4s. 6d. bottle. Wrappers from the Sample Outfit will not be accepted.

4th.—It is an absolute condition of entry that the decision of the Committee is taken as final, from which there is no appeal.

5th.—All photographs must reach Edwards' not later than June 21st, 1911, the day before the Coronation, and must bear the name and address of the sender, together with any particulars that may assist the judging committee in arriving at a decision, written on a slip pasted at the back of the photograph. Photographs may be sent any time from now, but in any case not later than June 21st, 1911.

6th.—This Competition is open to the Colonies as well as those in the British Isles.

7th.—No responsibility for the delay on return of photographs can be recognised.

The announcement of the result will be published in "The Daily Mail," "Daily Express," and "Daily Chronicle," on July 13th, and the distribution of prizes will take place on that day.

OPEN LETTERS AND POSTCARDS.

To J. W. Nicholson, Esq., Chairman, Burial Board, Carlisle.

DEAR SIR,—You will permit me to say that the public have every reason to be grateful to Mr. G. E. Edmondson for bringing to the notice of his colleagues the conduct of certain clergymen in connection with funerals. If there is one duty in which a clergyman should display his sympathy, it is his exercise of the Burial Office. The death of those one loves racks the heart terribly enough, without those clergy whose mission it is to conduct the service by the grave keeping mourners in suspense by prolonged delays. The unpunctuality at funerals of the clergy connected with Carlisle Cemetery is not to be extenuated by elaborate explanations of forgetfulness. Forgetfulness of engagements so solemn and so painful is dereliction of duty; is disrespect to the dead and negligence to the living. It seems to be not a question of one instance, but of several. The Rev. F. L. H. Millard is an hour late for one funeral, the Rev. B. W. Shepheard-Walwyn forgets to turn up at another. In two other cases, one of the rev. gentlemen is 25 minutes and the other 35 minutes' late.

It is not difficult to imagine the distress of waiting mourners while telephones are being worked and messages dispatched for the services of other clergy, and the confusion arising by the ultimate arrival of the two. Now that this lamentable unpunctuality has been brought to the notice of your Board, I trust it will at once cease. I understand the clergy connected with the cemetery receive on an average £2 a week for their services, and if they are too busy elsewhere to attend to the most solemn of their duties, and also the most significant of their obligations in the light of the religious doctrines they preach, it will be advisable to discharge them and engage others.

JOHN BULL.

To the Urban District Council, Llandrindod Wells.

GENTLEMEN,—Only the narrowest view of your duties and responsibilities could have induced you to refuse an invitation to the Montgomery Yeomanry to camp at the Wells in May. The general argument of the members appears to be that if the Yeomanry were invited to camp, it would turn Llandrindod into a cheap holiday resort. One of them even added insult to folly by saying that nobody wanted a lot of drunken men about the town at night disturbing the visitors, despite the fact that in any case there are practically no visitors in Llandrindod to disturb during May.

I should have been greatly surprised, gentlemen, if the decision of the Council had not aroused general indignation and resentment throughout the town. Dr. John Griffiths, J.P., the Chairman at the public meeting of protest, made it abundantly clear what the financial advantages to the town would be, by reason of the presence of the Yeomanry in camp and it is, therefore, not necessary for me to remind you of this aspect of the matter. There is the larger view. The success of the system which seeks to train the Territorials as voluntary citizen soldiers stands between our country and conscription. Camps are essential, and it is obvious that the more attractive their sites, the more eager will be the men for training. The attitude of your Council is not only against the interests of Llandrindod, but it is against the interests of the country. It is anti-patriotic; and from the local point of view it has not even the justification of reasoned self-interest. The best way to atone for a mistake is to acknowledge it—and, before it is too late, to undo it.

JOHN BULL.

To the Rev. W. Marshall, The Vicarage, Idle, Yorks.

MY DEAR VICAR,—Will you let me wish you many happy returns of your recent birthday? To achieve, as you have done, eighty years of age and neither look it nor feel it, is a distinction few of us are able to obtain. Beloved in the parish in which you have so long laboured, upright and downright in all you have sought to do for the good of your people, neither a kill-joy in religion nor an aquapuritan in dietetics—you are as vigorous and as alert in body and mind as many who have not lived the half of your honoured years. May life continue to return to you in full measure the happiness you have striven to put into and get out of it.

JOHN BULL.

To Alderman J. Wilson, M.P., Chairman, and Mr. R. M. Ballensby, County Magistrates, Durham.

GENTLEMEN,—Having regard to the difficulty of bringing to book those who inflict cruelty on pit ponies, I think it is a matter for great regret—I had almost said a matter for censure—that the prosecution of a pony putter named Young in your Court did not make the charge which obviously arose out of the evidence. That evidence revealed the most shocking brutality on the part of this man. Because the pony was "a bit slow at its work," he first set about kicking it, and then belaboured it on the back with a stick two or three feet long. Brutal as all this was, it was not the worst, gentlemen, as you know. A few hours afterwards "a hewer named Blakelock was called out of his working place by defendant. On going to him, Blakelock found him with his pony, which was in the limbers, and bleeding profusely from a number of wounds. The defendant was holding his fingers on one large wound on the animal's left shoulder, trying to stop the rush of blood. The wound was evidently a deep one, and a vein must have been punctured. The nature of the wounds—there were five altogether—showed at once that they must have been inflicted by a pick point." Though the defence endeavoured to prove that these pick wounds—one of them seven inches long—were due to the animal falling about, or to "something in connection with the gears," there was not the smallest doubt as to how they had been inflicted.

This being the case, gentlemen, I am at a loss to conceive why the Lambton Collieries, Limited, the prosecutors, could frame no other charge against this brutal miner than that of contravening the Mines Regulation Act by "failing to exercise due care in the management of a pit pony of which he was in charge." Kicking it, belabouring it on the back with a stick two or three feet long, attacking it with a collier's pick—is "neglect" the proper name for barbarity of this kind? You know it is not. It is to your credit that you did not disguise your thoughts or mince your words about it. "If the defendant had been charged with cruelty," said your Chairman, "the magistrates would have sent him to prison without any hesitation whatever, but as he was charged with neglect, and not cruelty, they would impose a fine of £2 and costs. That was as far as they could go; they would have gone farther if they could." Thus it is that another brute escapes practically without punishment, with every wound in that poor tortured beast the bleeding witness of its agony. Is it not time, gentlemen, that we had stricter regulations as to the employment and inspection of pit ponies in that underground where so much of inhumanity to these dumb, defenceless toilers is covered by the darkness?

JOHN BULL.

To Erskine Pollock, Esq., and other Magistrates, Petty Sessions, Tetbury.

GENTLEMEN,—I see that Mr. Albert Roger Van Den Bergh has appeared before you on a charge of trespassing in search of game. As you are aware, this is so heinous an offence when committed by labourers, out-of-works, and persons of that nefarious character, that the common rule of justices is to send them to gaol for any period between three weeks and three months, according to circumstances and liver. But Mr. Van Den Bergh is not a labourer. He has exercised an admirable discretion in the selection of his parents, his father being "a highly-respected gentleman in the neighbourhood." However painful, duty is duty, and you had to find Mr. Van Den Bergh guilty. Did you give him three months', gentlemen? Certainly not. Did you give him three weeks'? I do *not* think. You, Mr. Pollock, as chairman of magistrates, were kind enough to state that the Bench were bound to make some distinction between him and a poor person—and you did, Mr. Van Den Bergh being let off with a fine of 15s. and costs. Surely in "making a distinction," you should have cast him into durance for twenty-eight days at least. It may be that I have taken the remark in the wrong sense. You may mean that if the young gentleman had been a poor person he would have been let off for half-a-crown. In this case, I shall have pleasure in watching the fate of future game trespassers when they come before your esteemed and merciful Bench.

JOHN BULL.

NEXT WEEK, a special article by MR. BOTTOMLEY—

"PLAIN WORDS TO THE PREMIER."

MORE FOREIGN COMPET'TION.

(It is stated that Ulster is importing arms from Germany.)

AUSTEN: "Resist Home Rule by all means—but why not get these things from Birmingham?"

JOHN BULL IN THE CITY.

By Verax.

On the Eve of a Fresh Upward Movement—The Monetary Outlook.

The Stock Markets have been held in check by the delay in the reduction of the Bank rate and by the fortnightly Settlement, but a fresh upward movement is now preparing in *Rhodesians* after the profit-taking fit. *Kaffirs* are firm, but *Jungles* are again out in the cold. *Rubber* shares have rallied, and there is a good under-current in *Oil* shares. *Mexican Rails* have advanced, as I said they would. Money should get easier as soon as the Indian gold demand ceases.

The Movement in Rhodesians—On the Eve of a Fresh Advance.

After a temporary slackening in the demand for *Rhodesian Mines*, which led to profit-taking by the professional operators, the market is preparing for a fresh advance. There is no doubt about the concerted movement which is afoot for the agricultural and mining development of Rhodesia, and what has created a very favourable impression is that, according to latest cables, not only in the *Globe and Phœnix*, but also in the *Falcon* and *Eldorado Mines*, the ore is getting much richer at depth. In the *Falcon* the value per ton has risen from 34s. on the second level to 63s. on the fourth level, and these shares are very tempting at 2⅛. So are also *Hay Gold Mines* at 2, *Lonely Reefs* at 3, and *Antelopes* at 9s. 6d. *Cam and Motor* have firmed up to ⅛ premium, while *Thistle Etna* are quoted 1⅛, and all these are distinctly promising. That *Chartered* shares should be improving at about 1 23-32, is natural enough in view of the great progress achieved, and *Rhodesia Ex.* are also recovering again at 3⅞. *Rhodesia* and *Ashanti* have improved to 5s. 6d.—6s. on favourable advices from the company's properties. *London and Rhodesia Mining and Land* shares, with their valuable assets, are likely to rise above their present price of 2⅛, and *Rhodesia Gold Mines and Investment* are cheap at 1 7-16, while *Amalgamated Props. of Rhodesia*, with their large land and claim holdings, have remarkable potentialities with the shares at only 8s. 9d. The shares of the Aporoma Goldfields have been introduced into the market at 1 3-16. The capital is £300,000, in £1 shares, of which 33,893 are held in reserve. The company acquires a very large gold placer, property, covering 1,277 acres, at Aporoma, in Peru. It is stated that this auriferous deposit can be traced for 3,700 yards, and for a width of from 1,500 to 1,800 yards. I shall have more to say about this important property next week.

Tin Prospects—Nigerian Companies—A Coming Spanish Tin Mine.

I ventured to foreshadow, when writing on Tin on December 31st, when the metal stood at £177, a further advance, and the quotation has now got as far as £190, while the market expects a possible £200. The fact is that a very large enquiry has come from America, where supplies are very low and consumption requirements remain very large, while the European trade is also purchasing freely and the tinplate industry is in a buoyant condition, orders being now booked for delivery to the end of the year. Enormous realisations by holders of tin investments, apparently encouraged by the strong syndicate which controls the tin market at present, have had but a fleeting effect. There is an important deficiency in the production of the metal by the mines in the Straits owing to the diversion of labour to the rubber industry, and so far there is no other source from which so great a falling off can be made up, the *Nigerian Companies* not having got into full swing yet, while being difficult of access. Of these, the shares of about a dozen are now quoted here, but a fair proportion of them are worked more in the market than in the mines. The declaration of a 50 per cent. dividend by the *Zaaiplaats Tin Company* (Waterberg district of the Transvaal) shows how prosperous some of the Tin mines are getting. In the circumstances, a *Spanish Tin Mine*, whose extensive *proved* tin deposits have hitherto been worked by hand, and which is about to be converted into an English Company, should prove of special interest. With modern machinery an annual production of 750 tons of tin is aimed at, which would work out better even than the *Zaaiplaats'* profits. Good news about the *Mount Bischoff Mine*, which, in addition to the usual monthly dividend (the 150th), has declared a Christmas bonus of 5s. per share of £5 each. This makes the total paid out £2,215,000, equal to £186 per share, now quoted £44 10s.

Lively Times in Home Rails—Great Easterns Overbulled—Dover's Pleasant Surprise—Brighton Result.

Lively times are now being experienced in the Home Railway market, in view of the succession of dividend announcements. Amongst the important declarations, the *Great Eastern* dividend, although at the rate of 4½ per cent. per annum, against 4 per cent. per annum, appeared to have disappointed some of the more sanguine operators, who had, in fact, over-bulled the stock. The result was a relapse on Friday from 71¼ to 69, and a partial recovery to 69½. The pleasant *South Eastern* surprise came just in time that day to get the market out of a bad hole, and, for the first time for eleven years, *Dover "A"* now gets a dividend, viz., 1 per cent. per annum, and the quotation is up to 42. The wisdom of the policy adopted by the Home Railway Companies in forming working arrangements with others with whom they had formerly been in a state of hostile competition, is thus being demonstrated by the happiest results. Peaceful international politics and reasonably cheap money will also foster business, and thus it is permitted to look for a period of exceptional prosperity. Home Rails, which are also enjoying an additional, if as yet problematical, support from expected economies in engine power from the superheater invention, have already scored substantial advances since I so strongly recommended them. The Lancashire and Yorkshire dividend is a good one, viz., at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, and the Brighton distribution is quite satisfactory, the Deferred getting 4¾ per cent. for the past year, against 4 per cent. for 1909.

Temporary Lull in Oil Shares—Shell Transports the Best Feature—Good Support for Maikops.

The temporary lull in Oil shares may not prove to the taste of the "get-rich-quick" operators, but there can be no doubt that it will do the market a lot of good in the long run, while still giving people a chance to come in at a moderate level. *Shell Transports* are still the best spot, on second thoughts with regard to the new capital issue, and are now quoted at 87s. *Spies* are firm at 30s., and *Maikop Spies* are a strong spot at 15s., on the good news from this property. The *Maikop* group has been well maintained throughout, and *Maikop Pipeline* are firm at over 20s. Important developments in connection with this group may be expected in the course of next month, when the pipeline commences working. *Burmahs* are off at 4, despite the discovery of a new deposit on the banks of the Irrawaddy River, which is expected to enable the company to maintain its present high output. *Mexican Eagles* relapsed to 23s. 6d., but rallied again to 25s., as the new "gusher" is expected to make this company a big producer. *California Oilfields* have been a weak spot, but are now steadier at 5 1-16. *Kern River*, after passing through sharp fluctuations, have sobered down in the neighbourhood of 13s. *Oil Development Trust* shares have improved to 2s. 10½d. The *Anglo-Roumanian Petroleum Co.* is increasing its production, which was 777 tons in November and 1,095 tons in December, and will show a further increase in January. Yet the shares stand only at ⅞—1.

Have Rubbers Turned?—Market Much Over-Sold—The Statistical Position.

It looks almost as if the Bears had overshot the mark in rubber shares, this market being now quite over-sold. Moreover, the forced liquidation from the East is said to be over, and generally the technical position is much sounder than it has been for a long time past. This was illustrated by the conditions prevailing at last week's Settlement. In fact, it only requires a lasting improvement in the price of rubber itself, or, at any rate, a gravelling at about the present level, to induce speculators and operators to return to their former love. The statistical position is thoroughly sound—for instance, the receipts at Para of wild rubber this month to the 19th inst. were only 2,500 tons, as compared with nearly 6,000 tons for the whole of the corresponding month of last year. The total receipts for the season from July 1 last are also considerably below those of the corresponding period of 1909-10. The share market has gone from grave to gay with a vengeance, but until it is certain that the change for the better has come to stay, speculative operators should go for short turns only, and investors should confine their attention to the marketable dividend-payers. The index shares give the clue to the general course of the market, and *Linggis*, after dropping to 39s., have recovered to 43s. 6d., *Vallambrosa* from 27s. 9d. to 31s. 6d., and so on. *Highlands* are firmer at 4 13-16, but the "heavy" shares still show substantial losses on balance, and the low-priced shares can hardly be expected to come into the dealings again until confidence has been quite restored.

JOHN BULL'S FINANCIAL LETTER-BOX.

(1) *Letters containing inquiries must be addressed to the City Editor,* JOHN BULL, *2, Copthall Buildings, E.C. The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith. Anonymous communications will be disregarded.*

(2) *Correspondents should adopt either a nom-de-plume, or mention initials, under which the replies will appear in the paper. The stocks or subjects inquired about should also be numbered.*

(3) *Replies are made only in the ordinary way through the columns of this journal under the above heading, and not by letter.*

(4) *In no circumstances will the proprietors undertake the sale or purchase of stocks or shares.*

(5) *If inquirers wish it, for transacting business, the names and addresses of respectable firms of stockbrokers, members of the London Stock Exchange, will be supplied to them, in which case a stamped addressed envelope must be enclosed.*

(6) A Postal Order for 1/- must accompany each Financial or Insurance Enquiry.

SOUND INVESTMENTS.—PEDLAR.—Yes, of their kind, especially Nos. 1, 3 and 4. I also direct your attention to the advantages of Redeemable stocks, as detailed in my article for next week.

NATIONAL THEATRES DE LUXE.—J. McD.—If you are not satisfied with the position, you had better get into communication with other shareholders (of whom you can demand a list from the Secretary of the company, or see it at Somerset House), with a view to common action. As regards payment of calls, you can only refuse on the ground of misrepresentation, which might have to be proved in the Law Courts.

CALICO PRINTERS.—BANTAM.—(1) Yes, you had better hold for an improvement. (2) No. (3) If you have a profit, take it. (4) You must be aware that lotteries are illegal in this country, and I cannot tell you anything about the intermediaries of the Royal Hungarian Lottery, except that they are mostly shady.

INVESTMENT TRUST CORPORATION, LIMITED.—L. M. E.—A very good company.

KENT COAL CONCESSIONS.—IGNORANT.—The price is, I believe, from 3½ to 4 per share, but there is not a very active market. There are, however, great possibilities, although it is speculative. As regards the investment of the money you speak of, you cannot do better than put it in Home Railway stocks, to yield you from 4½ to 5 per cent. per annum.

INDUSTRIAL YIELDS.—NELL.—Your list is a good one, recognising the possibility of fluctuations with the rest of the market. The approximate yields are as follow:—(1) No quotation for Ordinary; Prefs. yielding £6 11s. 6d. per cent. (2) Ditto.; Prefs. yield £4 9s. per cent. (3) £5 10s. 9d. per cent. (4) £5 9s. 9d. per cent. (5) £8 per cent. (6) £7 1s. 3d. per cent. (8) £5 14s. 3d. per cent. (9) £6 8s. per cent. (10) £5 17s. 6d. per cent. (11) £5 per cent.

OILS, ETC.—K. A.—Instead of those in question, neither of which is very desirable, you had better go into the oil shares specially recommended by me, such as Anglo-Malkop, Black Sea Oilfields, and others mentioned in my article.

RUBOIL.—I am not particularly well disposed to this concern, but the directors have strenuously denied the reports in question. Perhaps the best thing to do is to sell on a favourable opportunity, and re-invest in more promising oil shares. You will find these mentioned in last week's article.

VARIOUS.—The pick of the bunch are Japanese (1) and Argentine Tramway Debentures. (2) Nos. 5 and 6 are fair Industrials, No. 4 more speculative, and No. 9 distinctly more so. I do not care for either Nos. 3 or 10. Nos. 7 and 8 are highly speculative oil shares, but the latter especially are not without some promise.

MEXICAN MINE.—Cow Boy.—It is still all in the future, and there are many more progressive mining investments to be made, especially amongst Rhodesians. Sell on any favourable opportunity, and re-invest as indicated.

KAFFIRS.—LAMBERT.—It is weary work waiting, but it would be a pity to sell at a loss just when it looks as if the market will take a turn for the better. All your holdings are first-class, with the exception of No. 2, and even these should improve when the market generally braces up. Nil Desperandum!

SOUTH DEVON IRON AND GENERAL MINING.—DODO.—No information is now available with regard to it, but should this meet the eye of anyone connected with the company, perhaps he will communicate with me on the matter.

MINES.—CHISWICK.—The best share on your list is Wolhuter (5), and then Village Main Reef. I do not care much for any of the others. You can do far better, for instance, in the Rhodesians specially mentioned in my article this week, and which look like having a good run. Some of the South African dividend-payers are also worth attention. I dealt with these a week or two ago.

OBSCURE INVESTMENT.—F. E. W.—Have nothing to do with this concern, or with the shares which it is offering. Always bear in mind that it pays best in the long run to buy only sound and marketable securities.

NORTH BRITISH.—ARCHYLE.—Prospects of the Scotch Railways are excellent, and the coming Glasgow Exhibition will give traffics a further fillip. You have a substantial profit, but it is worth while holding for a further rise.

AUSTRALIAN BANK, ETC.—S. A. D.—No dividend has yet been paid on these bank shares, which are quoted at about 28s. per share, £3 paid. (2) No information available. (3) Ditto.

UNITED REALISATION CO.—H. A. D.—The only way to get the information is, apparently, to combine with fellow shareholders in a demand for the same. It appears that the debit balance at the end of December last was over £315,000, so that the outlook is the reverse of cheerful.

AVIATION SHARES.—W. E. R.—I am afraid I cannot afford you any comfort. There is no market, and, as a last resource, I can only advise you to advertise them for sale in the daily Press, when someone might be disposed to take them from you at a price, but even then I am not sanguine.

HEIDELBERG ESTATES.—FINSBURG.—The present address of the company is 20, Copthall Avenue, E.C. Very little information is available, and a debit balance has accumulated, while, of course, no dividend has yet been paid. There is no market, and it would consequently be very difficult to dispose of the shares.

RUBBERS.—J. N.—The company has hardly had time to get to work properly yet, and I do not see how an interim dividend could already be paid. You must wait with what patience you can for the first annual directors' report, to be issued in a few months. BUSINESS FELLOW.—I do not like either of the rubber shares, and you would do far better to confine your attention to such as Linggis, Vallambrosan, Anglo-Malays, United Sumatras, etc. L. W.—As you have taken up your shares, there is nothing for it but to stand where you are. The question of averaging depends entirely upon the state of the market, and it should not be long now ere such a course would be advisable. ROCKY.—There is no option but to hold the three other shares for the present. Just now there is a collapse in the market, and it would be useless to sacrifice. Hold for a recovery. BELWAARDE RUBBER.—I note that you say you have sent letters, one registered, to the Belwaarde Rubber and Cocoa Co., 553, Salisbury House, E.C., asking when the share-certificates will be ready, without receiving the courtesy of a reply. Perhaps this will meet the eye of the Secretary, and induce him to give the necessary information. The address of Sir Thomas Barclay is 13, Old Square, Lincoln's Inn, London, W.C.

£200 INVESTMENT.—G. J. K.—Put the money into Brighton Railway Preferred at 133, and Caledonian Preferred at 64½.

OBSCURE INDUSTRIAL.—W. D.—I strongly advise you not to invest any money in this concern. You can do far better in leading South African and Rhodesian shares, for instance. See my articles.

£150 INVESTMENT.—G. W. B.—Instead of investing in the Society in question, put the money into the Home Railway stocks mentioned to "G. J. K."

RHODESIAN CONCERN.—CONSTANT READER.—The Estates and Mining Company of Rhodesia does not appear to have done any work during the nine years it has been in existence, and I do not think much of the shares. Sell, if you can.

LIQUIDATION.—ANXIOUS ENQR.—I am afraid you have no remedy, and legal proceedings might simply result in throwing good money after bad.

MOUNTAIN COPPER.—KINTAIL (Lockerbie).—I do not care for either Mountain Copper Debentures or Ordinary shares, and much prefer Kaffirs and Rhodesians. Consult my articles.

CANADIAN MILLS AND TIMBER.—A. E. B.—The information available is that a saw-mill is being erected, and that it will be ready during the present year. The Secretary should afford you all further reasonable information. The Rhodesian Company has not yet declared a dividend since its inauguration in the present form.

SOCIETY.—SHOP SLAVE.—You were wrong to change over, as the first Society is undoubtedly the better. You should go back.

DERELICT MINES.—ARCHITECT (Pontypridd).—(1) The Rhodesia Consolidated is now being wound up. (2, 3, and 4) No longer in existence.

PATERSON, LAING AND BRUCE.—R. H. S.—The market opinion of the company is indicated by the fact that the Debenture stock stands at about 25 per cent. discount, and that the £5 Preference shares are quoted at 4s. You can do much better in, for instance, leading Home Rails.

WEST AFRICAN.—TE PAR.—I have not a favourable opinion of this concern. You should realise, and re-invest in, say, Amalgamated Props. of Rhodesia, at about 8s. 9d., these being far more promising.

BANKS.—APEIROS.—Parr's, Barclay's, or Lloyd's, are all equally good, and suitable for your purpose.

INDUSTRIAL PREFS.—NEWSAGENT.—The market quotation is usually a good criterion. Take an opportunity to sell, and re-invest in something more progressive. I still think well of, for instance, Home Railway stocks.

INDUSTRIAL EXCHANGE.—NOVICE.—I see no advantage in making the exchange, but if you feel inclined to sell No. 2, you might put the proceeds into Home Rails, which are much more progressive.

SPECULATIVE INDUSTRIALS.—TEE (Manor Park).—(1) Quite speculative. (2) Impossible to tell at present. (3) These shares are quoted at only 19s. 9d. (4) Because they are not worth more, in view of their speculative character. (5) Yes, but, of course, dependent upon developments which are unforeseen.

OUTSIDE BROKERS.—BARBER.—No, I do not approve of the new monthly profit-sharing deals of T. Moreton Harris and Company, and I strongly advise you to deal only through a member of the Stock Exchange. WATERLOO.—Nos. 1 and 2 are outside brokers of some standing, but you will find that, although you save the commission, you will have to pay more in price, and it is always preferable to deal through a member of the Stock Exchange. I do not recommend any connection with No. 3. SOCRATES.—All three polite invitations are doubtful, and I should advise you not to go in for them, as they are highly speculative. DESTAUN.—Nos. 1 and 2 are fairly respectable outside brokers, but I can tell you nothing about their solvency. No. 3 would not be suitable for you, if you want to do a steady business.

CINEMATOGRAPH THEATRE.—F. A. (Glasgow).—There are some good Cinematograph Theatres, and many doubtful ones. I cannot obtain sufficient information regarding the one enquired about to recommend the investment.

CIVIL SERVICE CORPORATION BANK.—J. A. W. (Plumstead).—I do not recommend this for your purposes.

RUBBER AND SHIPPING.—E. D.—I should think that it would be the best policy to divide the amount over several of the leading dividend-paying rubber shares, such as Linggi, Vallambrosa, and Anglo-Malay. The prices are just now very moderate. Your stockbroker will be able to give you full information with regard to the dividends and yields. Such a purchase would be promising.

ROLLER SKATING RINKS.—D. G. C.—I am sorry to see that you have invested in several Skating Rinks. Many of these have gone wrong, and although I know nothing special with regard to Nos. 1 or 2, I strongly advise you to draw your money out of them if you can.

PREMIUM BONDS.—SCOTCH SUNDAY.—There is nothing illegal in the matter, and I have forwarded what you require. I am not surprised that you have been overcharged for your bonds, especially as you bought them abroad. AMBITIOUS.—The firm in question charges prices above market quotations, and I do not like the prospects. I send you the name of Foreign Bankers in London, who make a speciality of Premium Bonds, and whom you had better consult. R. L.—What you require has been forwarded. The foreign firm mentioned by you is known for charging higher prices than market values. W. B. T. (Cape Colony).—No, I do not consider these people fair-dealing, as they charge too much. I send you a price list of a respectable firm, who will deal with you fairly. Thanks for kind messages.

RANDFONTEIN CENTRAL.—BRADFORD.—Your stockbroker was quite right. He bought Randfontein Central shares before the circular, in consequence of which they declined to 2 7-16, was issued. These are the chances of war, but the amalgamation is really in favour of the company, and eventually the shares will go much higher. D. D. (Bristol).—Certainly. You will do well to buy Randfontein Central at this moment. The present price is 2 7-16, and they should go much higher. What you require has been forwarded.

CITY DEEP.—A. B. C. (Bradford).—You have done quite right to buy. If you carry over with a member of the Stock Exchange you will, of course, get all dividends, etc. The company has just commenced crushing, and you cannot, therefore, expect a distribution for six months. There is no fresh news about Van Ryn Deep, but they are improving because several of the neighbouring mines are starting crushing.

BANKING AFFAIRS.—S. G. H.—There is no reason for stating that the institution in question is not safe. Personally, I always think it is preferable to invest in sound securities, unless dealing with one of the leading Joint Stock Banks.

INSURANCE REPLIES.

Insurance Enquiries should be addressed Insurance Editor, 93, Long Acre, W.C.

NATIONAL STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CO.—F. T.—We think it doubtful. VANNON (Guildford).—See previous answer.

LAW, CAR AND GENERAL INSURANCE CORPORATION.—A. S. H. (Scotthminster).—We should accept the offer of the Union London and Scottish. It is a young, but respectable, office.

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE CO.—J. R. (Horley).—The paragraphs in the pamphlet to which the Superintendent refers you in no way bear out the statement that you can withdraw the money at the end of three years, and that the company will add to it an amount equivalent to 3½ per cent. We return the papers.

THE NORTH AND SOUTH INSURANCE CORPORATION.—FORFIT (New Barnet).—If your friend has taken up shares that are only partly paid, he is liable for further calls until they have become fully paid.

ROYAL EXCHANGE LIFE ASSURANCE CO.—H. A. C. (Brighton).—The answer to both your questions is in the affirmative.

LAW INTEGRITY INSURANCE CO.—D. J. H. (Fishguard).—We are inclined to think so.

STATE INSURANCE.—J. D. (Glasgow).—It is impossible to say how the contemplated Insurance Bill, should it become law, would affect private superannuation funds.

INDUSTRIAL INSURANCE COMPANY.—T. J. C. (Walthamstow).—We agree. You should consult a solicitor. We return your policies and papers.

STATUS OF COMPANY.—J. W. (Rugby).—We should prefer another, but we have no reason to question the stability of the company to which you refer. T. R. (Kilmarnock).—We do not think well of this company.

TWO COMPANIES.—QUEEN'S (Bournemouth).—We think so.

SUITABLE OFFICES.—X 491 (London).—The Car and General, or the Fine Art and General, would meet your requirements.

BUILDING SOCIETY.—MILLS (Kent).—I cannot obtain any special information with regard to it, but if you will let me have the balance-sheet I will give you my opinion.

The Development of Cuba.

Important Interests at Work.

PENDING ISSUE.

The opinion is growing that great activity is likely to develop in the oil group. Many important new enterprises are about to come before the public, and it is believed that Cuba is to come in for a very large share of attention on the part of English investors. American capitalists have already placed a vast amount of money into the Cuban oil industry, but up to the present few English companies have taken much interest in the Cuban oil fields. During the past few weeks, however, a considerable change has taken place in the situation, and to-day several strong influential groups in England are negotiating for the acquisition of Cuban oil properties. The mineral wealth of Cuba is important, and the completion of the Panama Canal will no doubt confer very great benefits upon the island. Sound enterprises brought out under good auspices have splendid prospects. One of the first in the field will be the Anglo-Cuban Oil Bitumen and Asphalt Company. This company, which is backed by very influential London financiers, has a share capital of £200,000, which is divided into 395,000 preferred ordinary shares of 10s. each and 50,000 deferred shares of 1s. each: The forthcoming issue being for 210,000 of the preferred ordinary shares. These shares are to be entitled to a dividend of 20 per cent., and after provision has been made for reserve fund will also take one-third of the remaining profits.

The properties which have been acquired comprise no less than six bitumen and petroliferous estates of a total area of approximately 1,400 acres, and are located about 20 miles east of the port of Cardenas on the north-east coast of the island. Throughout the whole area experts state that the surface indications of petroleum are apparent on every hand. In one portion of the property a shallow excavation was made, and into this heavy crude oil oozed in large quantities, it being eventually drawn out in buckets and sold to the sugar mills for fuel purposes and also for the manufacture of illuminating gas. The surface indications point to large deposits of oil, while in some places are springs of petroleum.

Inasmuch as the Cardenas and Jucaro Railroad passes through the property it is anticipated that the area will lend itself to speedy development, but while drilling machinery, etc., is being erected the various bitumen deposits are to be worked: considerable quantities of this article are already at hand for shipment.

As is known, the bitumen industry of Cuba has been established upon a commercial scale for many years. The producing shafts are still producing large quantities of bitumen, indicating that the supply is apparently almost inexhaustible.

It is said that there is a *local demand* for oil capable of absorbing nearly the whole of the company's annual output.

The company has a very strong Directorate, and is fortunate in having such a well-known petroleum expert as Dr. Paul Dvorkovitz as technical adviser.

The demand for Bitumen, especially Cuban Bitumen, is now largely increasing. It has been found of especial value in the construction of dustless roads, making a sound and solid paving, which is economical, lasting, and dust-proof. The demand for Bitumen for this purpose, owing to the rapid increase of motor traffic, is now very large and likely to increase largely in the future.

Bitumen is also extensively used in the manufacture of artificial asphalt, for streets and pavements, of which 38,000,000 square yards are in existence in America alone, and of mastic Asphalt, for which there is an almost unlimited demand for electric batteries, cable troughs and electric insulations of all kinds; also, in buildings for damp courses, roofs, cellars, swimming baths, reservoirs, etc.

The high-grade quality of the Bitumen and Asphalt deposits of Cuba has long been known, but it is only since the American war and the establishment of settled government in the Island that it has been possible to undertake their development on a commercial scale. It is stated in the reports that large masses of Bitumen have been proved to exist on the properties extending for over a mile in length. In other cases the Bitumen finds its way into wells or natural cavities of the limestone through the fractures in the rock overlying the oil-bearing strata. These natural cavities, as well as shafts sunk in the formation, are replenished as the Bitumen is removed. Some of the Wells in this district have been worked for 20 years and still appear to be inexhaustible.

During Mr. Whitney's (who reports on the properties) recent visit to London, he was requested to give an opinion on the analytical and marketable value of the Bitumen produced from this property, a parcel of which had been sent to London by the representative of the Directors mentioned above, and he reported that that parcel gave 97 per cent. of fine Bitumen on analysis, and that the value of Bitumen of this standard in New York is $25 per ton at the present time.

It is stated in the Expert's Reports that, in addition to the natural outlets, a Well sunk to a depth of 150 feet *maintains a level of 100 feet of Bitumen* in a sufficiently clean state for immediate shipment. It is proposed to sink seven more wells 100 yards apart, which, on a moderate estimate, should yield an average of ten tons of Bitumen per day, in all a yield of 80 tons per day.

The cost of sinking, as a minimum, eight wells to a depth of 150 feet, providing wood sheathing, together with the necessary machinery, electric generators and cable, should not, in the opinion of the Directors, exceed £8,000, and, if necessary, further wells will be sunk so as to maintain the output at 80 tons of Bitumen per day.

This yield would, in the opinion of the Directors, justify the following estimate:—

80 tons of Bitumen per day at $25 per ton	per day $2,000	or say £400
Less cost of production, including management and overhead charges at $15 per ton	per day $1,200	or say £240
Showing a profit per day of	$800	or say £160

Or a net annual profit at 300 working days from Bitumen alone of say £48,000.

The large masses of Bitumen found on the surface are known to be a petroliferous product, and the Reports state that it may be confidently assumed the Bitumen overlays a Petroleum deposit of enormous volume, this being the experience in many similar cases at Trinidad, Maikop, Baku, Peru and elsewhere. *Petroleum has already been proved in the neighbouring province, Santa Clara,* at a depth of between 1,500 and 1,600 feet, and a considerable amount of drilling is being actively carried on in different parts of the Cuban oilfield.

There is a good local market for Petroleum and its Products produced by the Company, and the large cities in Cuba, the sugar plantations and numerous mining and local industries, furnish a large and growing demand. The importations of Petroleum from the United States during recent years have been no less than 7,000,000 gallons of crude oil and 3,000,000 gallons of the refined product annually. Any extension in the use of Petroleum for marine power purposes should prove of considerable importance to this Company on account of the number of steamers trading to Cuba and the West Indies, and especially in view of the opening of the Panama Canal in a few years' time.

Mr. Whitney's estimate of the daily output of each well is 500 barrels, making a total daily output for the six wells that are to be sunk as a minimum of 3,000 barrels. The local demand for Crude Oil is more than sufficient to absorb eight times this output, as shown by the importation figures mentioned above. The imported Oil fetches 80 cents per barrel on the field, and to this must be added the cost of freight, port charges, duty, etc., so that the price of the Crude Oil delivered in Cuba can therefore be calculated as well over $1 per barrel.

Taking the daily output of oil from these properties at *half* the amount estimated by Mr. Whitney, namely, 250 barrels for each of the six wells, or a gross output of 1,500 barrels per day, and the selling price at the very moderate figure of $1 per barrel, we have a total annual gross revenue on a year of 300 days of

1,500 barrels by 300 days, equal to 450,000 barrels at $1 ...	= $450,000	say £90,000
The operating expenses, management and overhead charges are estimated not to exceed 15 cents per barrel	$67,500	
The 10 per cent. royalty on this output will amount to ...	45,000	
Add sundry charges at the property and in London	25,000	
	$127,500	say £25,500

Or a net annual profit from Oil alone of £64,500

These figures are based upon the amount of Oil which it is calculated can be obtained from the Wells by pumping operations, but should the Company be fortunate enough to strike a "gusher" the figures based upon Mr. Whitney's Report, which for the purpose of the Directors' estimate have been halved, would in all probability be largely exceeded.

The probability of a "gusher" is mentioned in one of the Reports, and the importance of this may be gauged from the fact that two "gushers" have recently been located in California, which resembles Cuba in its geological conditions. These are now producing 10,000 barrels and 16,000 barrels of Oil daily respectively, and the output from these two wells is, therefore, 6 and 10 times greater respectively than the total estimated output of the six wells to be sunk on but a portion of this Company's property.

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Initials.	£	s.	d.
HET	13	9	3
CJW	20	0	0
CAG	23	2	6
SKR	15	0	0
JLS	20	0	0
WBC	20	0	0
JAD	182	10	0
EWH	16	10	0
HBG	41	5	0
GG	46	0	0
WS	17	7	9
CJW	13	0	0
WGS	18	0	0
VS	18	0	0
LAWJ	12	15	0
AT	29	11	10
RC	16	2	9
Mrs. JW	12	0	0
NB	40	0	0
EJB	12	9	0
Mrs.CH	62	14	0
LPS	18	0	0
SM	17	5	0
HS	32	0	0
RS	12	5	0
FCW	15	9	6
JB	50	0	0
JSS	24	0	0
WP	13	16	0

Initials.	£	s.	d.
WGW	13	13	6
WJD	17	5	0
GB	14	14	0
JWM	22	0	0
Mrs. JW	18	0	0
EHS	24	10	0
HT	19	16	0
WEB	16	13	0
RG	36	11	3
JEH	12	0	0
Mrs. P	19	13	6
AMS	13	5	3
WGS	18	0	0
JGB	30	0	0
JAD	46	0	0
Mrs.HO	23	12	6
HRB	13	5	0
HEM	24	0	0
HHB	28	0	0
JJW	21	5	0
VS	18	0	0
WLR	20	0	0
JJE	12	10	0
WP	24	5	0
SM	21	16	6
WGS	12	0	0
JAD	13	2	0
TS	16	16	6
RS	11	15	0

Initials.	£	s.	d.
WB	25	0	0
RAR	15	14	6
JJW	21	10	0
CO	15	10	0
DLS	22	10	0
ELF	59	6	0
TJB	14	12	6
AH	14	9	0
GR	12	0	0
SMC	12	0	0
JM	11	2	6
JAW	27	10	0
CP	18	9	9
TL	62	16	3
AH	20	0	0
SCD	25	5	3
PJD	36	10	0
GTG	50	0	0
CL	15	5	0
JWB	16	10	0
JDB	10	15	0
JAC	12	0	0
RAR	22	18	0
RWS	22	10	0
WC	24	0	0
ARW	38	15	0
RS	12	0	0
HB	26	0	0
JAD	112	10	0

Initials.	£	s.	d.
JDB	13	5	0
MAWT	21	10	0
Mrs.HO	25	5	0
Miss KI	12	0	0
WLR	15	0	0
TDH	27	5	0
AEB	28	2	6
FEG	54	0	0
FS	14	15	0
AH	26	15	0
CW	20	19	9
LT	33	19	9
WER	23	0	0
WC	63	9	0
DLS	67	11	9
HEN	99	15	0
AER	12	0	0
MJS	43	15	0
ARW	15	5	0
HEN	295	0	0
FEG	143	5	0
AB	26	0	0
JAD	83	10	0
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GH	21	2	0
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IMAGINARY INTERVIEWS.

By WALTER MOORE.

MR. WINSTON CHURCHILL.

I met the Home Secretary at a certain shooting gallery in the West End the other evening. He was practising with automatic pistols.

"When do you receive your medal?" I asked.

"Medal—what medal?" demanded Winston, scoring a magpie.

"For intrepid conduct during the Battle of Sidney Street," I replied.

"I scarcely think the part I took in the action merits such recognition as that," returned Mr. Churchill. "I only did my duty."

"Is that all?" I murmured ingenuously.

Mr. Churchill turned, and eyed me narrowly.

"What are you insinuating?" he demanded.

"Oh, nothing, nothing," I declared hastily, stepping back a pace or two and toying with a loaded Mauser. "I was merely thinking that you *may* have exceeded to an infinitesimal extent the recognised duties of a Home Secretary. I'm afraid your fighting spirit got the better of your judgment."

"Can't you drop the subject?" cried Winston impatiently. "I'm sick of it. The papers have made a ridiculous fuss about it. Suppose I *was* a little indiscreet. Well, I *was*, that's all. Let it drop."

"I would willingly do so," I replied, "but for one reason. The public are not satisfied that the operations were carried out so well as they might have been. The two men, they are saying, whose bodies were found amongst the débris of the gutted house were not, it seems, the persons whom the police believed them to be. It is not proved that they had any complicity in the Houndsditch massacre, and the police appear to have made no effort to capture them alive. Now comes the point. Questions, of necessity, will be asked in the House of Commons when Parliament meets. It will be asked, 'By whose authority was the house in Sidney Street allowed to be burnt to the ground?' You were on the spot. You are the head of the police force. It consequently follows that the responsibility for everything that was done, and everything that was left undone, rests upon your shoulders."

Mr. Churchill fingered his chin uneasily.

"Now," I continued, "perhaps you can see the difficulty. Any question asked in the House challenging the action of the police, will be a challenge to yourself. You cannot promise a departmental inquiry, because such an inquiry would be, in a sense, an inquiry into your own conduct. The whole thing will consequently become a Party question. The Government will have to support the action of the police at any cost, because you sanctioned such action by your presence. If the Government did not support you on Party grounds, and the House condemned the action of the police, you would have no choice but to resign the Home Secretaryship."

"I can't dispute the truth of what you say," replied Mr. Churchill. "I hadn't looked at it in that light. But you could not expect me to consider all those points when I was in action. You have no idea of the sensation of being under fire. It is most exhilarating—when you are used to it. I forgot I was Home Secretary. In a sense, I 'saw red.' There were two murderous villains in that house, and we meant to do for them—somehow. That was the predominant thought."

"I can understand all that," I returned. "But your initial error was in leaving the Home Office. You had no right, as a civil servant of the Crown, to endanger your life by exposing yourself to chance bullets in a street fight. Think what it would have meant to the country if you had been killed!"

"A-h!" breathed the Home Secretary.

"Think how we should have missed you; think how the criminals languishing in the prisons throughout the country would have wept! Think of the grief of the old Shepherd of Dartmoor!"

"D——n the old Shepherd of Dartmoor!" cried Winston "You must blame Lloyd George for that."

"Well, I daresay there will be some interesting questions asked about that also when Parliament meets."

Mr. Churchill fired the remainder of his cartridges viciously, missed each time, and stalked savagely away.

THE DRAMA OF TO-DAY.

By M. CLEMENT SCOTT.

"PRESERVING MR. PANMURE."

There is a disagreeable, unsavoury odour about the new Pinero play, which is neither palatable, nor is it nice.

I went to the Comedy Theatre fully expecting to get across the footlights some of the delicious aroma of one or two of "Pinny's" earlier efforts as a playmaker, but, alas! I was doomed to dreary disappointment. Not a trace of the "Sweet Lavender" or "Magistrate" period could I detect anywhere.

The only remnant of the past is the exquisite polish that Arthur Wing Pinero has brought to the surface of all the actors and actresses engaged in "Preserving Mr. Panmure."

Sir Arthur describes his "latest edition" to the theatre as a "*comic* play in four acts." To me there is precious little of the "comic" about it. There is a laugh here and there, but even these are strained. It is a tedious affair altogether—and to have to drag through four long-winded scenes—and the curtain dropped in the middle of one of these—all written round a kiss—a kiss, mind you, that you don't even see happen on the stage—is a trifle boring.

And if it was *only* a kiss—*en pleine bouche*—albeit said, that Arthur Playfair Panmure intended to bestow on Josepha Quarendon, where is the reason for him coming back from the other room in the dishevelled state he does—and why is Miss Marie Löhr made to convey the shuddery movements she does when drawing her hands more than once across her open mouth? It gives you such an unpleasant sensation, and suggests so much more than may really be intended.

If the characters were but true to life it might be different, but I do not spot a single real being; the whole thing appears to be out of gear—wrong—and inconsistent.

Imagine a man of Pinero's braininess resorting to the old music-hall device of a fellow putting his hand in a vase and being unable to get it out again! Then, finding he is unable to free himself, asking the Right Hon. Reginald Stulkeley, M.P.—the man who has lured Talbot Woodhouse into the fix he is in by making him draw lots for Josepha, the "kissed governess," who to all intents and purposes is not quite the young innocent the author would make us believe—"Did you guess this would happen?" or words to this effect.

Miss Quarendon, as I hinted before, is indeed no fool. Having given the show—or rather the kiss—away to the womenfolk in the house by a series of untruths, Josepha seeks the aid of Reginald and Talbot, and when they flatly refuse to take upon themselves the responsibility incurred by Mr. Panmure's incomprehensible behaviour, the knowing lady declares she will go out into the garden and walk about in her evening costume and the rain, until she catches throat trouble, or chest ailment, or something equally injurious.

Then it begins to hail, and Reginald can stand the horror of it no longer, so he takes a dash through the window and brings Josepha, drenched through to the skin, back into the warm room again, and the artful minx knows she has won the game.

Of the acting there is but one word to be said—perfection—of the play there is another—regret—for the most pitiable way of trying to be funny is the one that appeals to a hidden form of something that apparently implies that which it should not. I may be wrong, but this is how I feel about "Preserving Mr. Panmure," the sanctimonious J.P. so finely and discreetly acted by Arthur Playfair; in fact, if the "comic play in four acts" does blossom into a success, it will be in a great measure due to Mr. Playfair's magnificent and well-toned performance.

"FLING WIDE THE DOORS, AND LET THE PEOPLE IN!"

This was the headline of a powerful article written some time ago now by a man who was a strong advocate of healthy and wholesome Sunday amusements—a man who did much to popularise the National Sunday League concerts, etc. Why should these faddists now attempt to close the doors of cinematograph shows to the public? Surely if it is merely a question of taking money at the ticket offices on the Sabbath, passes could be bought on week-days, and arrangements made that the time of admittance was also printed on them. I consider the cinematograph entertainment one of the most amusing and instructive of the age, and why such an enjoyable, and at the same time harmless, diversion should be denied the public, it is really impossible to know. At almost every street corner there is a public-house open, and anybody can go in and buy drink. At the "picture houses," which are conducted on the quietest and most orderly lines, there is no liquor licence.

CUSACK'S COLLEGE PRIZE DISTRIBUTION.—The annual Prize Distribution in connection with Cusack's College, Finsbury Square, E.C., took place at the Cannon Street Hotel last week. Sir Thomas Brooke-Hitching, Vice-President of the Education Committee of the London Chamber of Commerce, occupied the chair. Sir Thomas, speaking of the growing importance of commercial education, eulogised the work so successfully carried on at Cusack's College. Amongst those who advanced to take medals and prizes, were the winner of the silver medal for the shorthand championship of the world, the first medalists in the advanced shorthand and typewriting competitions, Royal Society of Arts, as well as the holder of the highest speed certificate and medal for shorthand (220 words a minute) awarded during 1910.

What do You Know about Business?

An article of far-reaching importance to all who are engaged in business. Useful alike to the Clerk, the Salesman, the Traveller, the Manager, or the Proprietor of any Business, large or small.

To the thoughtless, the easy-going, or the very young man this question may at first glance seem an insult.

Such a one would answer, in an off-handed sort of way: "Why I am *in* Business—I am a Business man. I know all about Business—or I ought to do so."

Aye, there's the rub! He *ought to do*. But does he? Let me put the same question to you.

How much do *you* know about Business? Unless you are a rare and brilliant exception—you will probably own, after a mortifying self-examination, that it is precious little indeed of sound Business knowledge that you really know—confidently and surely enough to bank on.

Yet without this Business knowledge your chances of doing well for yourself in the business world are very poor ones indeed. With it, there is

No Position You Cannot Aspire To.

It is only necessary to look around, to read the daily papers, to listen to the gossip of the day, to realise that in no department of life into which intelligent men put sound knowledge and ability and "sticking in" qualities are the rewards so sure, so soon realised, and so lasting as in the great and increasingly-important world of Business.

Now what do *you* know about Business?

For instance, do you understand Book-keeping thoroughly? Could you draw up a balance-sheet? Do you understand exactly how the financial position of a tradesman or a firm is determined from his books? Do you understand a profit and loss account? Do you know when recovery of book debts is barred?

Do you know the law as it specially affects your own particular trade, business or calling? Do you understand the manufacturing of the goods you are concerned with or that the firm that employs you is concerned with? Do you know anything at all about manufacturing? Do you know how to figure depreciations? How to check leakage? Do you understand time-keeping systems?

You do not? Not thoroughly and authoritatively? Yet

These Things are Business Knowledge.

Do you know much about the Income Tax? Do you know Company Law? Do you know the cost of the formation of a Company? The methods of amalgamation? Do you understand the conversion of shares into stock? Do you understand Compulsory Winding-up? Do you know all about County Court Business, Judgments, etc.?

Do you understand clearly what a Bankruptcy definition is? Or what the goodwill of a business really means? Do you know about cheques and banking and bills of all sorts? Do you understand the difference between Insurance and Assurance?

Do you know how to start a Business? How to secure its credit, and to buy its equipment? How to organise its departments, build up its reputation, collect its debts, rake in its profits?

Do you know anything about big selling schemes? How to create a demand for any special article? How to meet competition? Do you understand the mail order business? Or how to hire and to coach and to deal with salesmen?

Do you know anything about advertising? Would you know how to engineer separately a national advertising appeal and a local appeal?

Yet these matters are Business Knowledge. And if you want to make money in business you must either know them or know where you can get authoritative and complete and up-to-date information concerning them and concerning the thousand and one points of doubt or difficulty that beset the business man in the course of his business day.

Now what are you to do?

You must get the Business Encyclopædia.

You cannot do without it, whether you are an ambitious young man on the threshold of your commercial life or a mature business man who dreads that he may be crowded out of the Business fight owing to the present-day stress of competition. If you are young the use of the Business Encyclopædia makes you proficient in

The Knowledge that is Your Stock-in-Trade.

If you are older, its use gives you the confidence founded on sound information, to enable you to act on your own business ideas.

It contains hundreds of business articles written by the most successful Business men of the day. Amongst these are: Richard Burbidge (Managing-Director Harrod's Stores), John Cansfield (Managing-Director Lipton Ltd.), S. F. Edge (the well-known Motor Expert), A. W. Gamage (Managing-Director A. W. Gamage Ltd.), John Lawrie (Managing-Director William Whiteley Ltd.), Joseph Lyons (Managing-Director J. Lyons and Co., Ltd.), H. G. Selfridge (Founder of Selfridge's Ltd.), Wareham Smith (Advertisement Director of the *Daily Mail*), S. J. Waring (Managing-Director Waring and Gillow).

The Business Encyclopædia deals with nothing but business, but it treats of this important subject fully and completely and authoritatively.

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DR. COOK TELLS THE TRUTH.—V.

THE REAL STORY OF HIS NORTH POLE EXPEDITION

TOLD BY HIMSELF.

(Exclusive for Great Britain to JOHN BULL.)

We commenced the publication of Dr. Cook's exciting narrative in our issue dated Dec. 31. Every line of the story breathes the strenuous, sanguine nature of the man. After dealing with his youthful aspirations and struggles to realise them—his yearnings for adventure, his experiences with Peary, as surgeon to the 1891-2 expedition—he starts his story of his much-discussed "dash to the Pole" with an account of his meeting with Mr. John R. Bradley, and his departure in July, 1907, with that gentleman for the Arctic regions on a big-game shooting expedition. He had avowed his intention of endeavouring to seize this opportunity to make a personal attempt to reach the Pole, and had provided accordingly. After describing his companions—who, with the exception of two Eskimos, left him on his journey in order to economise food and not to hamper his rapid movement—he tells of his struggles against the grim forces of Nature—his battles with cold, hunger, fatigue, and bitter gales of wind—the wonderful and awe-inspiring optical illusions which beset him—the peculiar Polar shadows and the superstitions connected by the Eskimos with them.

In our last issue Dr. Cook describes his harrowing experiences upon approaching his goal and brings the record of his progress to within a distance calculated as 29 miles from the Pole.

In placing before the world Dr. Cook's version of his expedition, we join him in his plea that until he has had a fair chance of showing his side of the case, judgment be withheld.

For a little while I forgot the anguish of my body. Of course I was hungry, thirsty, weak, dizzy with faintness, and I made the last upward marches in a delirium. Just what I felt then, just what happened, I do not know. There are in my note-book brief notes and calculations.

Here a snow house was built and a round of observations taken.

Unquestionably I believed that on April 21st, 1908, we had reached the Pole.

And now, here, I want you to consider carefully with me one thing which made me feel sure that we had reached the Pole. This is the subject of shadows—our own shadows on the snow-covered ice.

In the northward progress, for a long time, our shadows did not perceptibly shorten or brighten. The natives got from these shadows a never-ending variety of topics of conversation. Far from land, far from every sign of a cheering solid earth, wandering with our shadows over the hopeless desolation of the moving seas of glitter, I, too, took a keen interest in the blue blots that represented our bodies.

INDICATIVE PHENOMENA.

As we travelled on there was a notable change in our shadows. The night shadow lengthened, the day shadow by comparison shortened. The boys saw in this something which they would not confide in me. The earlier positive blue grew to a permanent purple, and the sharp outline now ran to vague, indeterminate edges.

Later on in our journey there was no longer any difference in length, colour, or sharpness of outline between the shadow of the day or night.

"What does it all mean?" I was asked. The Eskimos looked with eager eyes at me for explanation, but my vocabulary was not elaborate enough to give them a really scientific explanation and also my brain was too weary from the muscular poison of fatigue to frame words.

The shadows of midnight and those of mid-day were the same. The sun made a circle about the heavens in which the eye detected no difference in its height above the ice either night or day. Throughout the twenty-four hours there was no perceptible rise or set in the sun's seeming movement around the heavens. Now, at noon the shadow represented in its length the altitude of the sun, about 12°. At six o'clock it was the same. At midnight the same. At six o'clock in the morning the same.

PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE.

A picture of the snow house and ourselves taken at this time and developed a year later gives the same length (12°) of shadow. The compass points south. Let us, for the sake of argument, grant that all our instrumental observations are wrong. Here is a condition of things in which I still believe the eye without instrumental assistance places the sun at about the same height for every hour of the day and night.

There was about us no land. No fixed point. Absolutely nothing upon which to rest the eye to give the sense of location or to judge distance. Here everything moves. The sea breathes. The wind stirs. The ice drifts in response to the pull of the air.

Even the sun, the only fixed dot in this stirring, restless world, where all you see is tossed like a ship at sea, seemed to have a rapid movement in a gold flushed circle not far above endless fields of purple crystal—but that movement was never higher, never lower, always in the same fixed path. The instruments detect a slight spiral ascent, day after day, but the eye detects no change.

SIGNIFICANCE OF OUR SHADOW CIRCLE.

We now drew a shadow circle as we often did on our northward trip. It is perhaps a childish amusement—but we were often children. Big, mannish playfulness is absent in the crystal world. No one can enter it and feel big, for everything about him is too huge. So we contented ourselves with seemingly childish amusements.

We made a little circle for our feet in the snow. One of the Eskimos stood in the foot circle. At midnight a line was cut in the snow to the end of that man's shadow and then a deep hole was struck with the ice axe and every hour a similar line was drawn out from the foot. At the end of twenty-four hours a circle was drawn along the points, which marked the end of the shadow for each hour.

We did not stay up all of bed time to play with shadow circles. But to the Eskimos the interest was a spiritual one, and to me it was a part in the act of self-conviction—that the Pole had been attained. For only at the Pole, I argued, could all shadows be of equal length. Because of this combination of keen concern, we managed to find an excuse, even during sleep hours, to draw a line in our shadow circle. During the march the shadows were occasionally measured—even when every hour of the dial was not spotted we usually had enough observations to make a fairly accurate circle.

THE ECSTASY OF SUCCESS.

Here, then, I felt was an important observation placing me with fair accuracy at the Pole, and unlike all other observations it was not based on that impossible dream of absolutely accurate time.

That this plaything was perhaps useful to me does not convince the geographer whose reputation is not at stake, whose legs have never stretched far beyond dusty bookshelves, nor will it convince a jury that in the nature of things knows little of the entire subject. But in this case I am the jury—for it is all a matter of my own good faith. Nothing more. A man who wants to be convinced, he who sees and feels and breathes the strange air of this other-world environment, would naturally find here a satisfying conviction. Now I admit that I wanted to be convinced, and this brought the throb of self-conviction.

With it came an hysteric exhilaration which was largely influenced by my weak physical condition. The waves of ecstasy that filled me were not, I suppose, unusual. It is known that, after long fasting, spiritual trances and hallucinations fill the mind of the religious ascetic. My mind, starved by impoverished blood and shaken with faintness, reeled. The thought that I was here, on the very apex of the world, circling an unknown mystery where no man had ever stood, was intoxication.

About the frozen plains my imagination evoked aspects of grandeur. The shifting mirages seemed like the ghosts of dead armies, magnified and transfigured, huge and spectral, moving along the horizon and bearing the wind-tossed ghosts of golden blood-stained banners.

The low beating of the wind assumed the throb of martial music. Bewildered, I realised all that I had suffered, all the pain of fasting, all the anguish of long weariness, and I felt that this was my reward. I had scaled the world and I stood at the Pole!

(To be continued.)

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THE ARMY—FROM WITHIN AND WITHOUT.

By ALLAN SUTOR.

THE ARMY MANŒUVRES.

One great satisfaction of having Army Manœuvres is that the valuable lessons learned from them have to be carefully collected and embodied in a memorandum issued to the general public. The Memorandum for the Manœuvres of 1910 has just been published. The lessons contained in it are numerous. Their one drawback is that they are old and stale. As, however, the manœuvres cost £100,000, it cannot be said that the lessons are cheap. It is perhaps satisfactory that the same old lessons were again discovered; it puts a higher value upon them. But more valuable than the mistakes made are the methods by which it is proposed to remedy them. To discover a mistake is one thing; to apply a corrective is another. Valuable suggestions are therefore made in the Memorandum. For instance, the Memorandum states once again that "the higher commands still experience difficulty is controlling the operations of their command." It does not enquire why they invariably experience this difficulty, nor does it yet realise that the Army could easily dispense with the services of such men. On the contrary, it proceeds calmly and leisurely to suggest a remedy: it is that commanders should beware of trusting to their telephones!

But perhaps the most important lesson of the manœuvres was that great Commanders should not in future spend a whole day in endeavouring to discover the enemy's weak point and then wait until the enemy has had time to alter all his dispositions before making an attack. The Memorandum announces that this was distinctly wrong! The subject of our divisional organisation is then referred to. A Division is now a self-contained unit of all arms (infantry, cavalry and artillery), capable of fighting single-handed and unsupported. It is a complete miniature Army. It is capable either of acting alone or in concert with other divisions. If acting alone, its commander would naturally wish to utilise all available roads, so as to make marching easy for the troops. If acting in concert with others, it is obvious that the other roads would not be available. One would imagine that this would have been fairly evident without the aid of manœuvres to bring it out.

Then "dense masses of men were seen advancing under fire in a manner that would be impossible in war." "March discipline was not good." "Experiences of South Africa appear to be forgotten." "Large bodies of troops when in column on route were kept quite unprotected." "Insufficient reconnaissance—failure to recognise fire positions." "Doubts now arising that artillery methods are not the best possible."

These are the lessons of our great annual muddle called "The Army Manœuvres." They cost £100,000 this year. About ten years ago they cost 250 millions and 25,000 men. Rather than go on, few junior officers of the Regular Army would hesitate to resign their commissions if they could afford to. They cannot afford to. That is their difficulty. They soon see what a muddle goes on during peace time, but they hang on to it from necessity. As for the old ones—the great Generals, Field-Marshals and Lord High Commissioners—the best thing to do would be to pension them—to get rid of them at any price.

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The John Bull League.

BRANCH REPORTS.

BIRMINGHAM.—A Business meeting of the Aston and Witton Branch was held at the Burlington Hall, High Street, Aston Manor, on Friday, January 20th, and was well attended. Mr. H. Benbow was elected Local Chairman, together with a strong committee. A great deal of enthusiasm prevailed, and the Branch bids fair to become a power in the district. The Hon. Secretary for Central Birmingham, Mr. C. L. Kay, will take part in a Debate on the Objects of the League, at Lozells Hall, Aston Manor, on Tuesday next, January 31st.

HULL.—An excellent Concert was held on Friday, January 20th, at the White Horse Hotel, Carr Lane, about 350 being present. Mr. A. Ellam presided. The Hon. Local Secretary, Mr. W. E. Petty, had got together a very attractive programme, amongst the artistes being the Cecilian Quartette, a member of which, Mr. F. Hope, admirably sang the League Song, which was heartily taken up by the audience. Mr. Harry Moore was in fine voice and his songs were heartily applauded. Mr. Seth King and Mr. Billy Wilson, two extremely clever comedians, kept the company in roars of laughter. Mr. Tomkins, in a bone solo, delighted everyone, and Mr. Haldenby proved an able accompanist. A gratifying number of new members were enrolled. The Branch will be formally inaugurated at a meeting to be held on Friday, February 3rd, at 8 p.m., at the Oddfellows' Hall, Charlotte Street, when the committee and officers will be elected.

LEEDS.—As announced last week, we were compelled to postpone the meeting in the Town Hall, which had been fixed for to-night (Thursday) owing to the indisposition of the President. We have experienced some difficulty in obtaining a suitable date, but we are now in a position to announce that the meeting will take place on Friday, March 3rd. In the meantime the Branch has arranged a Concert to be held on Saturday, February 4th, particulars of which will be found on the first page of this issue—to be followed by a Whist Drive on Thursday, February 9th, at the Old Bank Restaurant, Commercial Street.

LEICESTER.—The Corn Exchange has been secured for a meeting on Thursday, February 9th, to be addressed by ex-Lieut. Allan Sutor. Further particulars next week.

LIVERPOOL.—The Whist Drive held by this Branch on Thursday evening, January 19th, was a complete success. Many prominent Liverpool citizens were present and 40 tables were in play. The prizes, which were supplied by the English Goldsmiths' Company, of Stanley Street, were very much admired and were distributed to the winners by Mrs. G. S. Haines. During the interval, Mr. Rose entertained the company with song, and a good number of new members were enrolled. In replying to a vote of thanks, the Hon. Local Secretary, Mr. G. S. Haines, who acted as M.C., announced the forthcoming visit of ex-Lieut. Allan Sutor to the St. George's Hall on Friday, February 3rd.

MANCHESTER.—There is a brisk demand for tickets for the Whist Drive to be held on Saturday of this week at Messrs. Lyons' Café, 74, Market Street, and to prevent disappointment, members should make immediate application to the Hon. Local Secretary.

(*For Membership Coupon see page* ii. *of Cover.*)

IT IS RUMOURED THAT MR. BALFOUR IS ALSO GOING TO PRACTISE TOY-MAKING—WHEN HE GETS THE OPPORTUNITY.

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Coughs & Colds

chest and lung troubles of all kinds are cured by SCOTT'S Emulsion. For instance, Mr. S. Watson, 11 Prince Street, Dalton-in-Furness (December 7th, '09), writes that he was "seriously ill through catching one cold on top of another." He took Scott's Emulsion and "the first bottle somewhat allayed the pains in my chest. Three bottles entirely cured me. Scott's Emulsion has also built up my bodily strength."

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BULL'S EYES.

NOTES OF INTERROGATION:—
Will the Premier get "guarantees of good faith"?
Was "Cheese it!" the Dutch reply to Germany?
Is Lord Welby the first man to "feel a draught" in the Law Courts?
Aren't novelists beginning to find that there may be "a *bad* deal in a name"?
Won't the presidency of the Eighty Club suit Lloyd George to a "t"?
Won't cheaper whisky and gin *raise* some folks' spirits?
Will the Oncomers' Society soon "go off"?
Was "As you were!" Germany's order to the Kaiser?
Shouldn't it be called the British Shopping *Haul* Week?
Isn't the French duel becoming almost dangerous?
Won't the threatened rise in coffee give "grounds" for complaint?
Isn't every "strike" a "blow" for the Portuguese Government?
Hasn't the "virtue in a draught" long been appreciated in Fleet Street?

"The Rats" is the name of a new German play. It is not likely to attract those of bibulous tendencies.

Old Nick, we read, has been sold for five guineas. Poor devil!

Periwinkle II. won a race at Hurst Park recently. We hope our readers picked it out.

"Common people do not pray; they mostly beg," according to Bernard Shaw. We beg—to differ.

It is now a penal offence in Tacoma to invite a man to drink. *Not* to invite him is the offence over here.

Father H. Day, who complains that "This is an age of unbelief, conceit and superstition," must not be impatient; the John Bull League has only been at work a little while.

"Cathedral City as Model," reads a heading. From what we know of cathedral cities, we should look elsewhere.

"Never confound a dirty house with an untidy one," says Miss Martha Allen. We always "confound" both.

Matrimony is the subject of the new farce at the Criterion. It will refute the idea that there is no fun to be got out of marriage.

A Scotsman ought to make the finest goal-keeper at football; it comes natural to him to "save."

Garden Life gives the good advice "plant more dwarfs." They want to grow.

It is said that the Chancellor's recent interview ensures a strong Navy. Is it A1 at Lloyd's, George?

The *Express* says: "Early in the new year meteors should be seen radiating from the constellation of Bootes." The young man, about to interview the girl's pa, should note.

The *Mirror* doctor advises the picking of oakum, for colds. But wouldn't it make many people feel more "chokey"?

A naturalist has discovered a new bird, called the yellow coal-tit. Will it sit on the Wall's-end?

The Kaiser recently burnt his tongue. Perhaps he will now hold it.

Ex-soldiers are to be employed as taxi-cab drivers. Strange for them to find pleasure in lowering the flag.

We read of two hens worth £4,400. They have a run of good fortune.

"8,400,000 Germs in a Spoonful," runs a heading. Quite enough for a stir.

The man who was arrested at a party, must have felt like having four-fits.

A horse named Muffin Boy won a race. He had the others on toast.

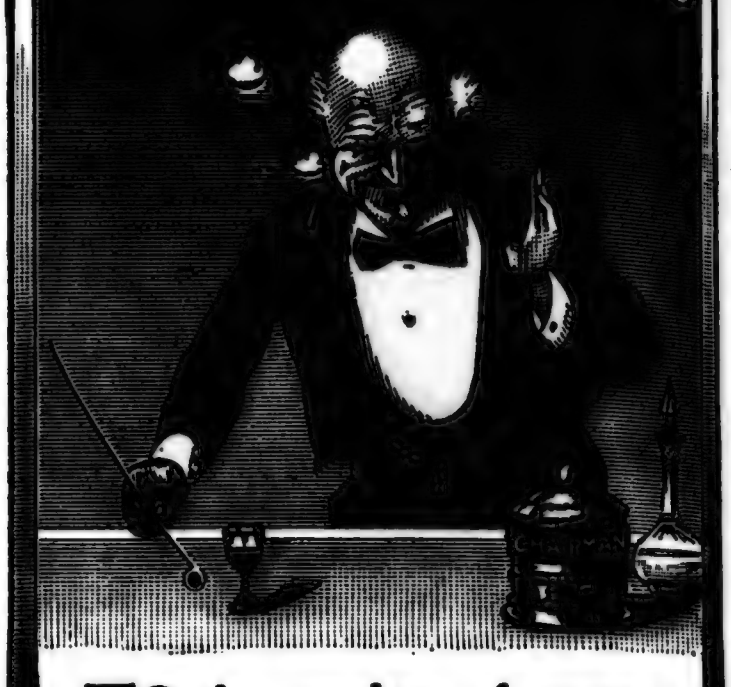
The South Africans found the Second Test Match no joke, although the bowler was Whitty.

In a charity angling match at Gorleston, seventy-four competitors secured one fish amongst them. A charity match indeed—for the fish.

The Dr. Mill who thinks it probable that we shall have another wet year, seems to be a sort of water-Mill.

Considering the comfort it brings, money is badly treated. It is struck at the Mint; often tried, locked up, and put in heavy bonds. Stamps get their heads punched, and a good licking. Cheques are crossed, and drawn.

BOOKS TO BE SHELVED:—
"Mrs. Fitz." Gave us several.
"Faded Leaves." Shows a want of colour.
"Astray in Arcady." The writer wanders.
"The Winter Queen." Left us cold.
"Successful Calf Rearing." The author has no faith in "padding."
"Famous Impostors." The subject-matter is bad.
"The Riding Master." Shows a falling off.
"Art's Enigma." An Impressionist study, we presume?
"The Brand of Silence." The title speaks for us.
"The Beauty Doctor." The reader must be patient.
"Widdershins." An attractive subject.
"The Feather Trade." A "trim" book.
"The Mountain of God." High views.



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I WAS A HEAVY DRINKER

Consumed quart of whisky every 24 hours

CURED IN 3 DAYS.

If you know anyone who drinks alcohol in any form, regularly or periodically, let me send my FREE BOOK, "Confessions of an Alcohol Slave." It reveals something important; explains how you can quickly cure a drinker.

I drank beer at first, then gradually developed into a drinker of strong liquors. When drinking heavily I did not hesitate to pawn my coat or break a public-house window to get spirits. For long periods I drank over a quart of whisky, rum or gin daily. And some mixed drinks and beer additionally! I damaged business, health, and social opportunities, made family miserable, lost real friends, and became an unworthy, unwelcome burden upon all except the publicans, who cheerfully took my money for the poison they gave me. *Alcoholism is terrible!* For 16 years I kept it up, and I was regarded as a hopeless case. Various "cures" did me no good. But now I have a joyful message for drinkers and their

MOTHERS, WIVES and SISTERS.

While drifting from bad to worse, as all slaves of King Alcohol do, I unexpectedly found a true cure. It was (and is) genuine. It saved my life. My health was quickly restored. I became and am a respectable man, enjoying every benefit of freedom from the accursed alcohol. I speedily and naturally lost all desire for drink. I took less and less. I began to prefer tea, coffee, and other non-alcoholic liquids; the craving for liquor ceased. I could sleep perfectly, my stomach became well, and I recovered from other ailments which I now know were due to my indulgence in strong drink.

WONDERFUL CURE FOR DRINK HABIT.

My cure took three days; if I had relied upon will power or faith I should still be a drunkard, because an alcohol slave has no will power while drinking. I rejoiced so greatly at having found a true cure that I decided to devote my life to removing the curse from others. My success has been marvellous. During eight years I have supplied the treatment to many thousands of men and women who were addicted to drink; the list includes very many persons notable in all walks of life, including those of brains and those of physical energy. If I were permitted to mention names of all who have been saved through this quick, permanent cure the public would be astonished. They include public officials, great lawyers, bankers, clergymen, noted merchants, skilled mechanics, trusted managers and clerks, farmers and others in all vocations.

I tell about the secret in my book, which I send FREE to every person (or relative or friend) who takes alcohol in any form to excess. My one purpose in life is to cure the drunkard. I rejoice in every cure, each victim has my sympathy. What I promise is absolutely guaranteed. My remedy is for either steady or periodical drinkers. Think of it—a complete and permanent home cure between Friday night and Monday night—or any other 72 hours! I also supply a reliable Treatment which cures drinkers without their knowledge. It is the genuine secret method. To relatives, friends, or employers I say—If you want to cure a drinker in the quickest time and permanently, with or without his knowledge, and with absolute safety, read my book—changes despair to joy.

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I will send you my book, in plain wrapper, promptly, post paid. It tells of my own career and the wonderful discovery, and gives valuable advice. No other book like it. With the free book I will send you a legion of testimonials, with names and addresses, to prove what I say. I especially appeal to those who have wasted money on treatments or remedies which have no lasting effect. Remember, it costs nothing, and you will always be glad that you wrote. Correspondence strictly confidential. Mention whether person is willing to be cured, or if you need to cure him of drink habit without his knowledge. Cut this out if you cannot write to-day Address:

EDWARD J. WOODS, 10, Norfolk Street (F 306), Strand, London, W.C.

JOHN BULL'S LETTER BAG.

[THE EDITOR replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when sending cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

CORRESPONDENTS, when referring to previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to. Owing to the great increase in the number of ENQUIRIES *received consequent upon the abnormal growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag," AND ONLY THOSE OF GENERAL INTEREST will be noticed. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc.*

AUTHORS and ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work WHEN STAMPED, ADDRESSED* ENVELOPES ARE SENT FOR THE PURPOSE. ALL MATTER SUBMITTED MUST BE ORIGINAL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED. *The most suitable lengths for articles and stories are about 750 words (one column), or 1,500 words (a page).*

The EDITOR *cannot express any opinion upon the value of postage stamps, old china, pictures, coins, books, etc.*

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., as, *though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be sent in the first instance; if inspection of the originals is required, a request will be forwarded to that effect.*

THE EDITOR desires to return *sincere thanks* to numerous readers for their enquiries and sympathy during his recent illness. He regrets it is impracticable to write each one personally.

H. S. (London, N.W.) asks: "Are *Jim Crow's* neighbours martyrs to the caws?" Surely not at this time of the year

W. B. (Waterloo).—Why should we be expected to decide bets for everybody? You could have found out in any law list that *Mr. Bottomley* is not a barrister.

MR. E. J. PETCH (apropos a recent paragraph, giving the experience of a reader who had, apparently, been unfairly dealt with by *Football Chat*) wishes to make it clear that he is not connected with that publication in any official capacity, being, he says, simply chairman of a committee which safeguards the interests of competitors in Mr. Windust's competitions. We should like to know what steps he took to safeguard those of Mrs. B. Draper, of 47, Palmerston Street, Battersea Park Road, who, he admitted, was, in fact, entitled to a £250 prize—though she has received only £83 6s. 8d.

AN ENGLISHMAN asks whether we can explain "why the men working for the *Post Office* during last Christmas season received, with the exception of one week, only 20s. instead of the 24s. per week, as proposed and passed in the House of Commons?" We can't.

E. T. H. (Honor Oak Park).—There is certainly something to be said for your contention that it is not really kind to give poor people very rich fare and upset their stomachs at *Christmas*, when they never get a square meal during the other 364 days of the year. Still, they probably enjoy it. And we have to suffer for our pleasures.

P. D. D. (Newport, Mon.).—No, we do not advise you to pay 1s. 3d. for the privilege of registration by the "*Directory of Enquiry Agents for England, Ireland and Wales.*" For once, we rather agree with your parish magazine, which deprecates the bawling of hymns in the streets at Christmas-time to collect money for the purchase of sweets and cigarettes.

P. H. W. J. (Reading) enquires about the *Mansion Tea Co.*, which offers "£4 for nothing." Our experience is that, as a general rule, one gets nothing for nothing, and precious little for sixpence.

T. H. E. (Penge).—How very loyal and patriotic of you and your three friends to sing the *National Anthem* all by yourselves when the orchestra omitted to play it at the pantomime! What did you have for dinner?

T. L. L. (Paris) wants Jim Crow to explain "how it is that with its innumerable discomforts, nameless tramways, streets full of bogs, unspeakable cabs and filthy lavatories, not to mention the dangerous darkness of the streets at night—how is it, I say, that *Paris* exercises an undeniable fascination on most foreigners?" We give it up.

"DALE" (Leeds) enquires about *L. and A. Stephens and Sons* (12, *Bank Street, Boar Lane, Leeds*), who offer £5 to every purchaser of one packet of tea every week at 7d. per packet, weight not stated. We have already explained the device, and shall deal further with the matter in an early issue.

F. B. (Llandrindod Wells) polished his *bookstall window* so beautifully that a would-be purchaser of JOHN BULL knocked his nose against the glass. He really must be more dirty another time.

"A REGULAR CUSTOMER" (London).—We have enquired into your statements about the employees of *Lyons and Co.*, and have ascertained that they are without foundation.

J. Y.—(East Dulwich).—We discontinued the advertisement of *Clifford Turner, of Flushing, Holland*, immediately upon receiving complaints.

MR. JAMES BERRY, *the ex-hangman*, in reply to a recent correspondent, sends us his address, in order, as he says, to renew an acquaintance of 38 years' standing. Will our correspondent please note?

"CORN MERCHANT" (Islington) purchased goods at a well-known store to the value of £5 14s., and received two *receipted bills*, which bore no stamps. He pointed this out to the cashier, who replied that it was unnecessary to affix stamps, as there was no account, the transactions being merely exchange. "Corn Merchant" would like to know whether he is justified in receipting his customers' bills in the same manner. Yes, if no book entry is made in the customers' names, and the payments take place immediately on the purchase.

T. S. F. (Cleveleys) writes: "I have the effrontery to offer you the following *subjects to discuss*:—1. Yes, please. 2. No, thanks. 3. D——" For the moment we will content ourselves with beginning at the end.

F. W. (Weymouth) wants us to mention the fact that she has been robbed of £11 by a young man. As he is a regular reader of JOHN BULL perhaps we can persuade him to return it. We thought all our readers were honest Injuns.

T. D. (Swansea) grumbles about municipal finance, and wants English towns to adopt the foreign system of lottery loans. But we fear the Nonconformist conscience would object.

(*Continued on page* 142.)

A Famous Life Saver

Nerve and Muscular Exhaustion Rheumatism—

Having saved one hundred and ninety-two lives, Mr. W. J. Cobb considers he has one hundred and ninety-two of the very best reasons for publicly appreciating the lifelong benefit he has derived from Phosferine. Mr. Cobb says Phosferine braced his nerves and body, and made his system equal to all the exertion represented by his wonderful record. In one way or another, this famous Thames-side waterman has found in Phosferine alone the only remedy for, and safeguard against, the rheumatism, chills, and exposure of his calling. Very sure is Mr. Cobb, that his *nerve energy* made his achievements possible, for his possession of the Royal Humane Society's Medal and the historic Doggett Coat and Badge he attributes to the *physical health and vigour he derives from Phosferine.*

Completely Remedied.

Mr. W. J. ('Doggett') Cobb, 5, Gwalior Road, Putney, writes:—"Your excellent tonic Phosferine protects me against nerve exhaustion and muscular fatigue. After taking Phosferine, I have experienced a *distinct increase of mental and physical vigour.* For several years I suffered greatly from rheumatism and attacks of enteric fever, but Phosferine improved me wonderfully and let me get back to work again. I am bound to admit that Phosferine very effectively fortifies the system from the attacks of rheumatism, cramp and chills. In fact, I am certain Phosferine is *an actual preventive* of the ill-effects of over-exhaustion and exposure, and *keeps the nerves and frame braced up for any emergency.* I have proved this by the many sudden calls that have been made on my presence of mind and bodily powers in the saving of one hundred and ninety-two lives."—Sept. 2, 1910.

PHOSFERINE

THE GREATEST OF ALL TONICS.

A PROVEN REMEDY FOR

Neuralgia	Premature Decay	Anæmia
Rheumatism	Maternity Weakness	Malaria
Brain-fag	Nervous Headaches	Sleeplessness
Indigestion	Sciatica	Nervousness

and all disorders consequent upon a reduced state of the nervous system.

THE ROYAL TONIC.

Phosferine has been supplied by Royal Commands

To the Royal Family	H.M. the King of Greece
H.I.M. the Empress of Russia	H.M. The King of Spain
H.M. the Queen of Roumania	The Imperial Family of China

And the Principal Royalty throughout the World.

The 2/9 size contains nearly four times the 1/1½ size.

After the theatre or ball try a

MUSTARD BATH

A hot bath to which is added a couple of tablespoonfuls or so of
COLMAN'S MUSTARD

S.H.B.

WEAR YOUR OWN HAIR.

A Marvellous Discovery which Grows Hair in 30 Days.—"Crystolis."

£200 REWARD IF THEY FAIL.

Everybody will be pleased to learn that the alarming increase of Baldness has been checked at last by the discovery of a remarkable drug which actually grows hair. No longer need the prospect of having to wear a wig distress men and women who are rapidly becoming bald, or who have already lost most of their hair. "Crystolis"—the name given to this wonderful drug—has been tested in every way, and it has been found that it will actually cover the human head with hair, providing that the hair roots have not been destroyed, in about 30 days. Its properties are so remarkable that not only does it grow hair, but it also improves the quality of the existing hair if it is grey or faded, and it will frequently restore it to its natural colour within ten to fourteen days. No stronger argument can be used in its favour than that people who have tried almost every known thing for promoting hair growth, such as hair tonics, pomades, bay rum, grease, oil, etc., with no tangible result, have found that Crystolis only will do what the other things are said to do—grow hair. Since its discovery, a little over a year ago, it has taken the world by storm, and thousands of men and women are now living proofs of its efficacy. It has been found that almost every known hair trouble will succumb to its influence, and minor cases of scalp or hair diseases, such as dandruff, falling hair, itching scalp, etc., etc., have been completely cured with two or three applications.

It was reasonably argued that if "Crystolis" would promote human hair growth, it should also promote the growth of hair upon animals of various descriptions. Test after test has been made with almost miraculous results, and lovers of cats, dogs, horses, etc., will welcome it as a means of restoring the coats of pets to their natural beauty when disfigured by hair defects. As a hair dressing "Crystolis" is undoubtedly unexcelled. It contains no oil whatever, yet it makes the hair soft and glossy, with a tendency to fluffiness.

Why wear transformations or wigs when "Crystolis," the new drug, really grows hair?

Many of those who have used "Crystolis" report most astonishing results. Mr. A. H. D., of Brighton, says that he started a new growth of hair within seven days after beginning the use of "Crystolis." Dr. S. S. W., of Greenwich, S.E., writes that it stopped his hair from coming off within ten days after the first application.

Miss Florence Moore, the popular American actress, now playing in London, says:—"The change it has made in my hair seems almost miraculous; it is over 10 ins. longer than it was before I began the treatment, and it looks so pretty when it is dressed that my friends are continually complimenting me on the beauty of my hair."

Mr. M. Orben, of London, E.C., writes:—"When I began the 'Crystolis' treatment I was nearly bald, but in the six weeks that I have been using it I have obtained a new growth of nice black hair about 1 in. long. I had commenced to think that there was nothing that would really grow hair, and it seems to me like a work of magic, as I look at least five years younger now that I have a new growth of hair."

Many people write:—"It sounds too good to be true." But surely the test will tell.

The managers of the Creslo Laboratories have such strong faith in Crystolis that they have decided to make the following remarkable offer:—They will forfeit £200 in gold if they fail to prove that Crystolis actually grows hair. They will forfeit £200 in gold if anyone can prove that they were not the first discoverers of Crystolis. They will forfeit £200 in gold if it can be proved that it contains any oil, dye, or colouring matter of any kind. They will forfeit £200 in gold if every testimonial and sworn statement which they publish is not absolutely genuine. Arrangements have been made with the Laboratories to furnish free information in regard to this new process to all JOHN BULL readers. Merely cut out and send in the coupon below, and you will receive free particulars of this marvellous new product by return of post.

Baldness, Dandruff, Itching Scalp, &c.

FREE CRYSTOLIS COUPON.

Cut out this Coupon to-day and send to Creslo Laboratories, 6, Bouverie Street (Dept. 246), London, E.C., for free information regarding Crystolis, the new discovery for growing hair. Good for 7 days to all JOHN BULL readers.

Toilet Coupon, No. 246.

Dr. SCOTT'S PILLS

FOR BILIOUS & LIVER COMPLAINTS

If You Neglect Your Liver

every part of your system must suffer because your blood is certain to become charged with impurities. Indigestion, depression, lack of energy, dizziness, sickness, headaches, etc., are all "Liver signs." They can be cured only by restoring life and vigour to the liver. Dr. SCOTT'S PILLS do this quicker than any other remedy. A single dose will prove. Sold in green packages by all Chemists, Prices, 1/1½ & 2/9.

L. Careja de Luxe

JOHN BULL'S OWN CIGAR.

Equal to finest Havanas costing from 60/- to 120/- per 100.

"La Careja de Luxe"

35/- to 45/- per 100.

Made in England from finest Havana tobacco grown. The Cigar a man can enjoy.

SPECIAL ADVERTISING OFFER.

We will send a sample "Careja de Luxe" cigar to any address on receipt of four penny stamps. One cigar only supplied under this offer. EQUAL TO A SHILLING HAVANA.

JAMES & Co. (BIRM.) Ltd. 46, NEW ST. BIRMINGHAM

"SPOOK" (Ebbw Vale) wants to know if it is true that *Derwent House* on the island in Lake Derwent water is haunted, and that a large sum of money has been offered to anyone who will spend twelve months there? We imagine that this is about as likely as the alleged offer of Madame Tussaud to pay £100 to anyone who will spend a night in the Chamber of Horrors. We only wish it were true, as Jim Crow would do anything for a large sum of money, and we might be rid of his silly stuff for about a year.

F. D. (Folkestone) quotes a remark by the *Emperor of Austria* to the effect that "the young gentlemen of the British Embassy must be taught to get up early." Of course, the grandmotherly regulations of Vienna oblige everybody to go to bed at 10 o'clock or else pay a fine of twopence to their house porters. But what on earth is the object of getting up early unless you suffer from insomnia?

W. E. (East Ham) wants to know about *future generations*, and whether we are getting "more and more weak-kneed, narrow-chested, and unable to train?" He must wait and see!

G. W. (Calcutta) sends us an advertisement of a *cheap colliery*. But we do not quite understand the phrase: "No carting at all." Perhaps there is nothing to cart.

"RANELAGH" (Bracknell) writes:—"Could you tell me the name of a *poor sculptor* who lived in a garret in Paris? He awoke one night and found it to be freezing, so he took the clothes from his bed and wrapped them round his statue to prevent it from freezing; he had no other covering, and was found next morning dead. His statue still lives. If you could tell me his name and where the statue is now to be found, I should be pleased." Alas! we do not know the gentleman's name.

"AGNOSTIC" wants information of "a *very* perplexing and horrifying nuisance," to wit: a *plague of ants*, and offers to buy 100 copies of JOHN BULL if we will come to his rescue. Unfortunately, we are quite agnostics about ants, and can only suggest dynamite.

X. Y. Z. is a parson who certifies that applicants for *Old-Age Pensions* are of the requisite age. But, for some reason or other, he objects to assuring the authorities that his information is derived from the parish registers. He wants us to say that such requests are "red tape." But surely it would be quite easy for him to comply.

"FAIR WAGE" (Southall) complains of a poor woman receiving "the munificent sum of 5s. per week" for *scrubbing the floor of a picture palace* "with no tip-up seats." Why does she not take to literature, like the author of "Marie Claire"?

"A CONSTANT READER" is starting for *New York* and wants to know "what one can take without paying duty at the other end?" The answer is: Nothing!

Miss M. A. (Bournemouth) sends us an advertisement: "Youth wanted with *one leg*. Must have right leg off. Active, willing. No objection to travelling." Is someone getting up a hopping race?

"A CONSTANT READER" (Chertsey) sends us an advertisement of a *horse slaughterer* who announces that "three horses were recently fetched from three public-houses in one day." Evidently a case of alcoholic poisoning.

"LIBERAL" (Leicester) sends "a friendly warning to *Jacobus Corvus*, please, lest a too frequent intercourse with spirits causes his beautiful thoughts to appear as the baldest balderdash." But Jim drinks nothing stronger than rum now.

A. B. (Aruscha, Central Africa) has a poor opinion of his *native fellow-subjects*, and wants us to go out and look at them. He writes:—"I would not truble you with a long walk only my next doer nabour there is a Man wort over £10,000. See him how he lives. Him, his wife and a children in a room 10 by 10 feet full of smoke, dirt and creaping insects, you would not put your nose in it." Then what is the good of our travelling all the way to Central Africa?

J. A. H. (Smethwick) sends the following lucid question: "Can a fare be legally charged to a passenger who travels by rail over a portion of the line for which he had not a *ticket*, but who had a ticket for a journey over another portion of the line, because he did not change trains when he should have done at a certain station for the following reasons: (1) He had never travelled the district before, and did not know about the change. (2) Although the carriage window was open, not one of the four persons in the compartment heard the sound of 'Change here, etc.' (3) No one overlooked the tickets at this particular station?" This is a bit of a puzzler, but it is a golden rule for railway travellers to refuse to pay excess fares, and tender their visiting cards when persecuted.

G. C. (Richmond) wants to know where she can buy *opium-flavoured cigarettes* in London. She says she is "living in a *very* puritanical milieu," and does not know where to make enquiries. We do not wish to encourage naughtiness, but we imagine that almost any big tobacconist would be able to gratify her desires.

A. W. (Paris).—We believe it is usual to allow *pension terms* only for stays of at least a week, but the Hotel de Lile et d'Albion ought certainly to have told you so in advance.

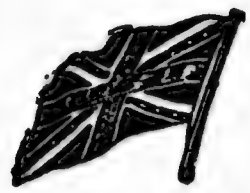
"AN ENQUIRER" (Bournemouth) asks whether he shall undergo treatment for heart trouble at the *Cosmopolitan Homœopathic Institute, Poole Road, Bournemouth*. The fact that the Italian doctor was "accompanied by another man dressed very loud," does not afford us any very special indication.

"WALL PAPERS" (Derby) sends us an *agony column advertisement* in which he has marked the following words: "My beautiful darling. Love you with all my heart, my darling. Belong to you only, sweetheart. Everything blank without you, dear one. Longing for you. Want you always, for you are all the world to me, my love. All my love and kisses, my own sweet, beautiful darling." His comment upon these frank phrases is as follows:—"Do for Heaven's sake give this fool five lashes with your whip, or else set your dog on him." "Wall Papers" evidently disapproves of philandering in cold print. He would prefer to have affectionate messages inscribed on warm-toned linoleum.

(We regret we are obliged to hold over a large number of replies.)

"ERASMIC"

BRITISH & BEST



An Englishman is usually able to judge for himself; that is why we offer him a trial sample of the "Erasmic" to test against any other Shaving Stick.

In Nickel Case, Price 10d.
Trial sample 2d. stamps.
Money returned if not satisfied. What could be fairer?
The Erasmic Co., Ltd.,
(Dept. K.), Warrington.

PRIVATE DETECTIVES

KIMPTONS

Prompt
Reliable
Honest

CONSULTATION FREE.

Telephone: 6787 Gerrard.
Telegrams: 'KIMPTONISM, LONDON.'

71 STRAND, W.C.

WINTER COUGH is the commencement, and if neglected often leads by insidious stages to the dread disease, CONSUMPTION. SARTOLIN ANTISEPTIC Treatment by Atmospheric inhalation is the latest Scientific triumph, and quickly renders the lung tissues impervious to the Tubercle Bacilli. A week's stay at Davos Platz condensed into half-an-hour's treatment by the SARTOLIN method at home. Write to day for explanatory Book, which will be sent gratis and post free. Address Room 7D, The Sartolin Company, 20, High Holborn, London.

Claymore Whisky The Favourite Scotch.

JUST PUBLISHED.

ON SALE AT ALL BOOKSTALLS.

2/6 net, or post free 2/10.

THE NEW BLUEBOOK ENTITLED:

HOW Successfully TO BUY and SELL STOCKS and SHARES.

Compiled by Author of Business Blue Book.

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How Payments are Made.
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Trustee Investments.
The Law and the Investor.
Stock Exchange Holidays.
Stock Exchange Terms.
Appendix.
Transfer and other Forms Illustrated.

Containing as it does just the information sought and which everyone should know, a similar demand for this work is anticipated as occurred for the Business Blue Book (50th thousand), which had similar claims, and edition after edition rapidly ran out of print.

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FREE TO THE RUPTURED

A Well Known Authority Sends a Sample of a Famous Method Free to All.

We will send free to anyone who is ruptured, or knows of any person ruptured, a free trial of our famous home cure. It is a marvellous method, curing cases that defied hospitals, doctors, trusses, electricity and all else. Merely send your name and address, and the free trial will be sent without any cost to you whatever. Mr. R. Wharton, 52, Domestic Street, Holbeck, Leeds, was ruptured seven years, tried all kinds of trusses, partly made up his mind to undergo the danger of an operation, when, by the greatest of good luck, he tried the Rice method. He is cured, **and has worn no truss for over six years.**

MR. R. WHARTON.

Mr. Wharton says:—"I tried the Rice method, and it cured me. I had been ruptured seven years and tried all kinds of trusses with no benefit. I am doing all I can to persuade every ruptured person to try this method, which I think is worth its weight in gold."

Every ruptured person ought to send at once and make a trial of this method. It has cured thousands of people without pain, danger, operation, or an hour's loss of time. Begin now, and in a short time you will forget you have been ruptured. Do not fail to send in this Coupon to-day.

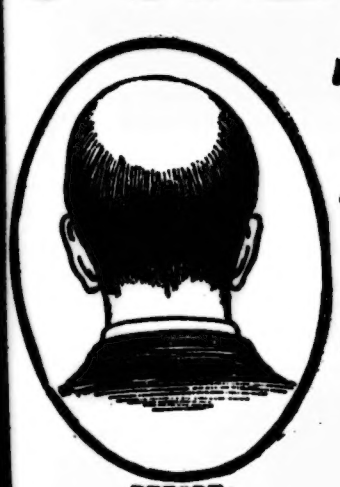
COUPON (B 1101).

Cut out and post to **WM. S. RICE, Ltd., 8 & 9, Stonecutter Street, London, E.C.**

Time Ruptured?.....*Age?*.....
Right, left, or both sides, or navel?.....
Name.....
Address.....
.....

FREE Hair-Growing Cultivation for 14 Days

free of charge. Complete outfit, including Craven-Burleigh's absolutely reliable Hair Grower, also a tablet of antiseptic Scalp Cleanser, and a splendid illustrated Booklet of 100 pages, "The Only Way to Grow Hair."



BEFORE.

The Only Way TO Make Hair Grow

AFTER.

TRY BEFORE YOU BUY IS A MOST EXCELLENT MAXIM

Craven-Burleigh's offer is a straight proposition! There's no humbug about it. It is open and above board. For 14 days you can test the truth of the genuineness of his famous Hair-growing cultivator. You incur no risk—no expense—no obligation to purchase—the risk and expense falls on Craven-Burleigh. All you have to do is to take up your pen, fill in the coupon below, enclose 3d. in stamps to pay cost of carriage and packing. By return you will receive the complete outfit free of charge. If you then follow out the instructions, you will see for yourself the daily improvement in the glossiness and growth of your hair. New shoots of strong invigorated hair will appear. Perseverance is the only thing required. The more you use it the better you'll like it. It's the only way.

FREE COUPON

Please send me 14 days' outfit by return.

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

SEND COUPON TO J. CRAVEN-BURLEIGH, 189A, CRAVEN HOUSE, 62 GREAT RUSSELL ST., LONDON, W.C.

RACING NOTES.

By W. LOTINGA.
("*Larry Lynx*" *of* THE PEOPLE, "*Double U. L.*" *of* LOTINGA'S WEEKLY, *and* "*Magpie*" *of* THE GLOBE.)

Not "The" Allden.

I think it only fair to the famous course bookmakers, the brothers W. H. and Geo. Allden, who have never conducted any s.p. business nor intend to, to say that they have no connection whatever with a Mr. George Allden, who is circularising largely, and particularly vowing that he attends all the principal meetings personally. This naturally suggests—especially to the neophyte—that he may be the very well-known and popular Geo. Allden who "stands up" in Tattersall's Ring at every meeting, so that in the interests of my readers I state these facts

Messrs. Weatherby's Bewilderment.

The rules of racing are so numerous, and so often changed, that it is no wonder that even Messrs. Weatherby did not know how to apply them in a case recently regarding the entry of a horse which had previously run in a certain name, but whose name it was desired to change to another, in an overnight event. The rule distinctly says that both the old and the new name must be given in an entry, so as to adequately identify the horse until the same has appeared in the sheet "Calendar." But there is no allusion to the inclusion of such new name being forbidden in the entry, and as the "Calendar" could not be published before the race was run without consulting the Stewards, Messrs. Weatherby were not prepared to say whether the entry was valid, but as it was an unimportant matter to the owner, it was waived.

True, at Times.

The late "Ronnie" Moncrieffe used to tell very good tales regarding the idiosyncrasies and the, at times, unreasonable whims of owners. When he was training for the late Colonel North—with over fifty horses in his care—his patron unexpectedly arrived at Newmarket during the middle of a morning with a large party of friends. His horses had done their morning work and been fed and watered; but the Colonel insisted upon having EVERY ONE of them out, and "to try the lot." Moncrieffe was horrified and resented the instructions, pointing out that it would ruin many of them, to which the reply came: "Whose horses are they? Get them all out, six at a time, beginning at the left of the boxes." As a result, two-year-olds, aged selling platers, a Derby candidate, and every class and character of animal had to be taken out in batches of six and galloped at top speed.

Prophetic.

Although in a quiet period Kempton is always interesting. If going back into the Selling ranks B.M. must win the Weybridge Plate on Friday, but we can hardly hope to see Rory O'Moore and CACKLER in opposition for the Paddock Steeplechase, which the latter will assuredly win. As he is a nice young horse, WHITE TAIL has a chance for the Hurdle Handicap, but I think the best thing of the first day's card is TIIRONE AND COUNTRY, who, as a genuine horse, will again beat Cedrus and Bendy Tree amongst his Newbury opponents, despite a few pounds worse terms. The danger might be Minter, but I am content to stick to a good game animal, and earnestly hope that he will win the nice stake for his new owner. On Saturday I like PORRIDGE as well as anything in the Handicap Steeplechase, and she is sure to be a 100 to 8 chance, whilst with only one penalty HIMAN, who will not be at a cramped price in view of his recent defeat, can take the Egham Plate.

Spratt's Almanack for this year is, as usual, an artistic production, containing beautifully coloured photographs of various prize-winning dogs and birds, as well as giving much information useful to both fanciers and novices. Any reader desiring a copy should make immediate application to Spratt's Patent, Ltd., 24 and 25, Fenchurch Street, E.C.

Is your Pipe ALL you could wish?

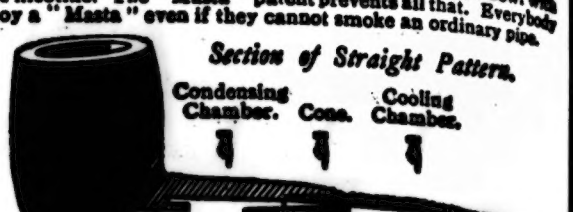
Doesn't it sometimes burn your tongue? Doesn't it sometimes fill your mouth with ill-tasting moisture. The

"MASTA" PIPE

cannot burn your tongue, *cannot* fill your mouth or the pipe-bowl with moisture or nicotine. The "Masta" patent prevents all that. Everybody can enjoy a "Masta" even if they cannot smoke an ordinary pipe.

Made of best selected briar.

Note the special construction.



No parts to get out of order. Cleaned easily and instantly. Obtainable of all leading tobacconists. Price 2/6, 4/-, 5/6, 8/-, &c. Cheaper quality, 1/-. Write to-day for free booklet, "Points on Pipes." Full of useful hints.

MASTA PIPE CO. (Dept. 9) 153 FLEET ST. LONDON, E.C.

J. McLAUCHLAN,

Estab. 19 years. { Turf Accountant, etc., FLUSHING, HOLLAND,

Write for Price List, Rules, Ready-reckoner, etc.
FUTURE EVENTS A SPECIALITY.
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Member of Tattersall's.

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Bert Fry's cheques are the same as cash. Payment for same will be made across the counter of a bank in 50 of the largest towns in the United Kingdom.

The Well-known Liverpool Sportsmen
FRED GOLL & ALF BIRCHALL
beg to announce that they have books open on
Lincolnshire Handicap, Grand National, Waterloo Cup.
Apply for terms, etc., to FLUSHING, HOLLAND. Id. post-card.

The Popular Scotch Whisky is—
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The drawing-room furniture consists of some magnificent pieces of French furniture, including a quantity of buhl, Louis Seize, Vernis Martin cabinets, bureaus, escritoires, etc.; Louis XIV. cabinet, with bevelled plate back and china cupboard underneath, £4 10s.; small satin-wood boudoir suite, £7 7s.; Chesterfield in silk, 58s.; a most exquisite gilt drawing-room suite, 12gns.; very pretty drawing-room suite, £5 10s.; another drawing-room suite, £6 15s.; also Louis XIV. drawing-room set, consisting of cabinet, all bevelled plates in back, overmantel, settee, 2 easy chairs and 4 small chairs upholstered in a very fine tapestry, £8 10s. the lot. A Vernis Martin panel cabinet, 12gns.; Chesterfield, upholstered in satin £7 7s.; Italian card table, inlaid ivory and satinwood, £4 4s.; a Worcester dessert service, consisting of 18 plates and 6 centre stands, £5 5s.; most magnificent piano, £5 5s.; another piano, 10gns.; and a piano by Collard and Collard, 20gns.; a 7¼-octave trichord grand pianoforte, in ebonised case, by C. Bechstein; 20 other pianos, all makes, to be sold without any reserve; 150 oil paintings unframed; grandfather's clock in oak case, £5 17s. 6d.; and a very fine chiming grandfather's clock, in Sheraton case, 18gns.; 50 carpets, hardly soiled, from 10s.; some very fine Mirzapore, Turkey, and Oriental carpets to be sold without any reserve, a quantity of electric light fittings; 20 volumes of books; large quantity of silk draperies, gilt mirrors, etc. A miniature brougham and a Parisian victoria; a 14 h.p. motor-car, and another 24 h.p. motor-car; two large motor-coats and a quantity of furs, etc. Country and other buyers should call at once and see these goods. All goods will be delivered in town or country perfectly free of charge, or can be stored till required. The above goods are now on view, and are being sold daily from nine till nine, except Saturday, when we close at seven o'clock, at

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The following claims have been received for the issues of November 26th, December 10th and 17th:—

J. BLOOMEN, Crown Inn, Walsall. No. 420,572 November 26th, 1910.

J. PARR, 275, Oldfield Street, Fenton, Stoke-on-Trent. No. 578,993. December 10th, 1910.

FRANK COBERT, 24, Vauxhall Road, Gloucester. No. 259,345. December 17th, 1910.

E. S. HOLLIER, 5, Alpha Road, Southville, Bristol. No. 257,695. December 17th, 1910.

H. W. ROODHOUSE, 38, Sandringham Buildings, Charing Cross Road, W.C. No. 740,760. December 17th, 1910.

JOHN McCOLL, 8, Rhinsdale Terrace, Ballieston. No. 193,705. December 17th, 1910.

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of December 31st:—

10724	72800	233173	388241	517217
20494	75101	233669	422660	526121
24646	89857	235213	432915	531242
30503	102349	274663	446567	570405
37109	109210	316408	456226	592932
42023	116338	325733	468005	633563
46978	117345	338845	475195	634059
48843	128986	347298	498792	674315
57138	135561	362781	503587	674811
66452	179624	373093	511444	705630

INITIAL NOUGHTS SHOULD BE DISREGARDED, BUT FINAL ONES ARE, OF COURSE, RECKONED.

THE FIFTY NUMBERS IN RESPECT OF THIS WEEK WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN OUR ISSUE DATED FEBRUARY 25TH (PUBLISHED FEBRUARY 23RD).

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